

Multi-choice TV next year as cable goes ahead

By Bill Johnston and Kenneth Goeling

Twelve local cable television companies, offering dozens of programmes, will be operating in Britain within the next year, the Government announced yesterday.

They will be the forerunners of a complete network of multi-channel cable systems to be set up throughout the UK. Viewers can expect to pay about £10 per month for the service.

The cable companies will be controlled by a new authority with powers similar to those of the Independent Broadcasting Authority.

The decision to create such a body shows the Government's rejection of arguments in favour of unregulated cable television.

Outlining the Government's policy in the Commons yesterday, Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, said: "The Government is anxious that the cable authority should ensure high standards of programme services. The same rules regarding good taste and decency as apply to BBC and IBA programmes will apply to all cable channels."

Details of the policy are contained in a 90 page White Paper which was published after the Home Secretary's statement.

The powers of the proposed cable authority are considered to be a victory for the Home Office, which has for months fought off the enthusiasm of the Department of Industry, which favoured minimum regulation.

The Home Office has been concerned that unregulated cable television in Britain would lead to the deterioration in broadcasting standards.

The White Paper points out that the legislation required to create the new authority: "Will make it clear that cable television channels will be subject to the provisions of the Obscene Publications Act." The Government has firmly rejected the possibility of cable operators offering "adult channels".

The 12 new franchises would be expected to be awarded within the next few months after the parliamentary debate on the White Paper but those networks would not be expected to be in operation for another year. The existing cable operators in Britain, now offering five or six channels, will be able to expand their services immediately after the Commons debate with the appropriate Home Office approval.

The BBC and independent television are to be protected, since all cable operators will pay them on their networks. "Pay as you view" services will be allowed for certain events, but not for those which have previously been the province of the public broadcasters.

That aspect was welcomed by the Independent Television Companies Association, which also hailed advertising controls proposed in the White Paper.

But the association regretted what it called the lack of sufficient encouragement for British programme-makers.

The Government has received many requests on this subject and British film makers were particularly concerned about an influx of cheap American programmes.

But the Association of Cinematograph Television and Allied Technicians (ACTT) was sceptical last night.

It said the White Paper was a chapter of lost opportunities. "It includes proposals that threaten existing networks, which will be deprived of revenue, and it attacks our national cultural standards."

ACTT demands a British quota of material of not less than the 86 per cent that operates for the BBC and ITV.

There was also anger about the Government's decision not to give British Telecom a monopoly to provide cable to operators.

Mr Bryan Stanley, general secretary of the Post Office Engineering Union, said it would ensure Britain had two cable systems with a massive and wasteful duplication of resources and "all the chaos of duplicated ducting schemes".

It missed an historical opportunity to provide a single new communications infrastructure to reach every part of the country eventually and that would be publicly owned and controlled.



Order and law: A riot policeman's baton falls on one of 4,000 law students protesting in Paris yesterday at education reforms. Report, page 8

Hess son believes diaries are real

From Michael Binyon Bonn

Herr Wolf-Rüdiger Hess, son of Rudolf Hess, the Führer's deputy, said yesterday he believed the Hitler diaries were genuine and he would appeal to the four allied powers in Berlin to allow his father to study them.

Herr Hess spent two hours at Stern magazine's offices in Hamburg yesterday and was shown several of the diaries. He also spent a long time talking to Herr Gerd Heidemann, the Stern reporter who discovered the diaries.

Herr Hess declared: "I have no reason to doubt the authenticity of the diaries".

He added that only his father could judge whether the diary entries were really written by Hitler, and for this reason he would formally apply to the allied powers of Spandau prison in Berlin, where his father has been imprisoned since 1946, to be allowed to take some of the volumes to his father for inspection.

Herr Hess wants to ask his father whether the Hess signature which is on a piece of paper stuck on the outside of some of the 60 volumes, together with two red seals that may have been affixed by Hess, are forgeries.

He said yesterday: "If he signed and sealed the volumes, then he must also have had a look inside".

Herr Hess, who has campaigned tirelessly for his father's release and the amelioration of his prison conditions, pointed out, however, that under the rules laid down by the British, Americans, French and Russians who jointly administer Spandau and take it in turns to guard its sole inmate, Rudolf Hess is forbidden to send or receive any information about the era from 1933 to 1945.

On Tuesday Herr Hess visited his father to mark his eighty-ninth birthday. During the visit, as at all those permitted once a month, four prison directors — one from each of the four powers — and two guards were present. A partition separates Hess from his visitors and no handshaking or physical contact are permitted. If the conversation ever touches on the forbidden period, the guards immediately intervene.

Hess is completely unaware of the controversy now raging in the world about the Hitler diaries. It would appear unlikely that he can be permitted to inspect them, for even if the three Western allies were to agree to this departure from the strictly enforced rules, the Russians almost certainly would not.

Although the Americans are now guarding the prison, Spandau is jointly administered and the three Western allies are not in a position to flout the agreed prison conditions.

Frau Hess, who is old and

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Tory Catholics divide over letter to CND leader

By Cliff Longley and Nicholas Timmins

Mr Bruce Kent is likely to be allowed to remain as general secretary of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament until after the general election, unless the campaign's tactics become more party political than they are now.

This became clear yesterday as Roman Catholic Conservative MPs divided over Cardinal Basil Hume's statement on Mr Kent's position, which was published in *The Times* yesterday.

Sir Hugh Fraser, Conservative MP for Stafford and Stone, and Mr Norman St John-Stevas, Conservative MP for Chelmsford, both supported the cardinal's decision to allow Mr Kent to continue for the time being his role in CND.

Sir John Biggs-Davison, Conservative MP for Epping Forest, said, however, that the scandal of Mr Kent's desertion of priestly work for political militancy should be ended at once.

Cardinal Hume, Archbishop of Westminster, declined publicly to expand on the terms of his statement, which was in the form of a standard letter to Roman Catholics who wrote to him about Mr Kent, or to answer hypothetical questions about what his attitude would be in certain eventualities.

But privately it was said on his behalf that he had no quarrel with the last paragraph of yesterday's letter in *The Times*. This suggested that Mr Kent should be allowed to continue his CND work at least until the general election.

Sir Hugh, a former Conservative Defence Minister, said: "I think Cardinal Hume's statement was the right one."

"It is correct to let Mr Kent continue at the present time. If at an election CND were to take the side of one party or the other, or were to operate as a political party itself, that would be the time Bruce Kent should pull out."

Mr St John-Stevas, a former Conservative leader of the Commons, said that he agreed with the cardinal's position in favour of multilateral rather than unilateral disarmament.

"There is a danger as we approach an election of his being, as a priest, involved in political controversy, and the cardinal was right to sound a warning note. But I certainly would not support in any way a witch-hunt against Mr Kent."

Mrs Joan Roddock, the chairman of CND, said that it was "another indication of the pressure that is being brought to bear".

But she said that CND's position on party politics was now established. The campaign would not be running its own candidates in the general election, nor would it endorse any political party or individual candidates, although its opposition to Conservative nuclear defence policies meant that it wanted the Government changed. "However much more politically controversial the issues may become, CND's stance in terms of party politics will not change."

Other Roman Catholic politicians and clerics supported the cardinal's stance.

Mrs Shirley Williams, SDP MP for Crosby, who is not a unilateralist, said: "If CND became totally associated with one political party, and said 'you must vote for Labour candidates', I could see there would be some embarrassment. But short of that I would strongly defend Mr Kent's right to continue."

The Archbishop of Liverpool, Mr David Worlock, said: "I am of course in entire agreement with principles on which Cardinal Hume made his decision three years ago (to allow Mr Kent to work for CND), and with his present evaluation of the situation. The question at issue is about the ministry of a priest and not about whether CND is a valid Christian option."

Political priests, page 12

Thatcher pledge on rating reform

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

The Prime Minister has delivered a firm, public pledge that her next election manifesto will contain proposals for a reform of the rating system.

After years of internal Whitehall obstruction and procrastination, Mrs Thatcher has taken complete charge and has declared in a written Commons reply: "Reform of the rating system is a high priority. We shall announce our proposals shortly."

But in spite of the Prime Minister's strong, personal lead in Cabinet committees, no final conclusion has yet been reached on the issue. Once a decision had been reached, there would be an announcement.

Nevertheless, Mr Tom King, the Secretary of State for the Environment, said in Commons questions yesterday that ministers were concerned "about the demands being made on a number of ratepayers by the most irresponsible Labour authorities, who appear to have no regard at all for the problems faced by both their industrial, commercial and domestic ratepayers."

He pointed out that the Greater London Council, the Inner London Education Authority and 16 other authorities had pushed up the average rate increase to 6.5 per cent. Apart from them actually, this year, on average, there were no rate increases. He also said: "In

Pledge by Reagan to fight 'fire in our yard'

From Christopher Thomas New York

President Reagan, speaking of the "worrying" military threat in Central America, said last night that the United States had in its hands the power to "keep the situation manageable".

In a speech to the American Newspaper Publishers Association in New York before returning to Washington for his important Central American speech to Congress, he said the US was not accustomed to worrying about a military threat in the hemisphere.

"We have almost taken for granted friendly, independent neighbours, but we can no longer ignore the fire-burning in our front yard. We must respond with firmness and unity and firmness of purpose."

He said all the people of the hemisphere were Americans and all had a share in a future of democracy and freedom.

The rest of the speech amounted to a somewhat tepid criticism of newspapers for not emphasizing good news, such as signs of economic progress, lower inflation and interest rates, slower growth in federal spending and a healthy stock market.

Central Manhattan was brought to a near-standstill, long before the President arrived, by hundreds of policemen and the sealing of several streets around the Waldorf Astoria Hotel. Tempers flared on the warmest day of the year as traffic jams built up along several blocks.

In his speech, Mr Reagan urged newspaper publishers to bear in mind the good news when they faced "pleas from Washington and maybe your own editorial writers" for more spending and higher taxes.

"I think the generosity and compassion of most Americans towards those who suffered during the recent recession deserves a little more news coverage than it has received."

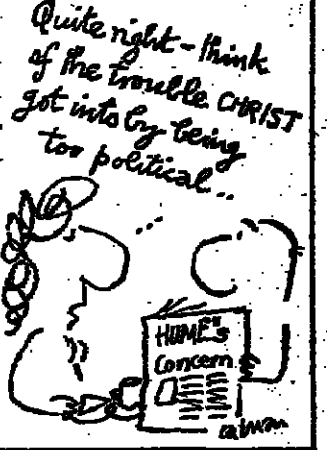
He acknowledged that bizarre or unpleasant events were unusual, but added: "There is another kind of news as well, the kind that lifts our spirits by providing insights into the kind of people we are and the kind of society we live in."

Penlee 'spite'

Mr George Beattie, Counsel for the Coastguard Service, called the "daily ritual of blame" against the service at the Penlee lifeboat inquiry "a tawdry campaign of spite".

Judges 'biased'

A senior barrister's allegation that many judges help to weaken the legal system by being heavily biased in favour of prosecutors was described by a former judge as "bloody nonsense".



Brothels plea

Mr Ronald Gregory, the Chief Constable of West Yorkshire, who retires in June, said last night that he would like to see prostitution legalised in "properly controlled establishments".

Kidnap plea

Princess Anne, president of the Save the Children Fund, has called for the quick release of the agency's seven kidnapped workers by Tigris guerrillas in Ethiopia.

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£8m 'football in pubs' video deal called off

By Andrew Cornelius

The £8m deal to screen Football League matches on large video sets installed in public houses and clubs has been called off.

London & Liverpool Trust, the company which planned to screen the matches on its big-screen Televisor video sets last night announced that it was pulling out of the deal.

The company said there were a number of obstacles which would prevent the deal becoming financially viable. It has decided instead to screen films on its Televisor sets, which have already been installed in 2,000 pubs and clubs.

London & Liverpool said that its main concern was that the league had insisted on retaining the copyright of matches after one screening in pubs. The company said that this would prevent the resale of matches for screening elsewhere.

After seeking legal advice, London & Liverpool also expressed some concern about the Football League's rights to negotiate.

The withdrawal of the offer strengthens the hand of BBC and ITV negotiators, whose £5.3m offer for exclusive rights to screen matches over two seasons has been turned down by the league.

Fears over Syria dominate Shultz talks

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

Serious American and Israeli concern about the growing Soviet involvement in Syria emerged last night as a central feature of the first of two initial meetings to be held between Mr George Shultz the United States Secretary of State, and Mr Menachem Begin, the Israeli Prime Minister.

During the hour long session at the Prime Minister's office, it was disclosed for the first time by General Ehud Barak, head of Israeli military intelligence, that Soviet pilots were now flying helicopters to Syria for the purpose of electronic warfare.

The military intelligence briefing, which is understood to have dominated a meeting seen as the most important Mr Shultz has yet held on his Middle East mission, also revealed that as many as 4,000 Soviet advisers were now serving in Syria and operating two SAM-5 anti-aircraft missile batteries as well as what was described as "a sophisticated communications link up" with the United States and Israel.

Poignancy was added to the meeting by reports a few hours earlier that Syrian troops had opened fire at Israel's across the tenuous, twisting ceasefire line in Lebanon's occupied Bekaa Valley for the second time in 24 hours.

Before last night's meeting began, exactly four months since the deadlocked negotiations between Israel, Lebanon and the US opened, Mr Begin told Knesset committee that Israel could make no concessions over the future role of Major Saad Haddad, the south Lebanese militia leader, despite differences with Washington over the issue.

The future role of the maverick major, who was cashiered by the Lebanese Army in 1979 has emerged as the main stumbling block preventing an American diplomatic breakthrough.



Haddad (left) and Begin: Diplomatic obstacle

of the United States and Israel.

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TV-am search for cash package

Confidential talks continued yesterday at the headquarters of TV-am in Camden Lock, north London, to reach agreement on a financial package to save the struggling breakfast television station from collapse.

The station, reported to be losing £600,000 a month and down to 300,000 viewers, is seeking to restore to £3m its bank overdraft from the £1.5m to which it was reduced last week.

Journalists and technicians have agreed to reduce expenses and other measures to save £1.5m a year. TV-am refused to comment last night.

TONIGHT Kennedy Center 7.30pm LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA Claudio Abbado

WEBERN Six Pieces, Opus 6
ELGAR Cello Concerto
MAHLER Symphony No.1
Antonio Meneses, Cello

WASHINGTON D.C. is the first stop on the Orchestra's third World Tour, a tour that embraces 17 cities across three continents. The Orchestra will be transported throughout by a chartered British Airways Boeing 707. The cost of such an enterprise is frighteningly high and without donations from Rank Xerox and The British Council, it would not have been possible. To them and to our individual sponsors we offer our warmest thanks.

Itinerary
Claudio Abbado, conductor 28 April - 22 May
Ivan Fischer, conductor 24 May - 29 May

28 April - Washington Kennedy Center. Sponsored by J. H. Minc & Co. Inc and Sir Jack Lyons
29 April - Boston Symphony Hall. Sponsored by the First National Bank of Boston, The Gillette Company and Lee Service Group
30 April - Philadelphia Symphony Hall
2 May - New York Avery Fisher Hall, Lincoln Center. Sponsored by Merrill Lynch
3 May - New York Carnegie Hall. Sponsored by J. H. Minc & Co. Inc and Sir Jack Lyons
4 May - Chicago Orchestra Hall
5 May - San Francisco Davies Hall
9 & 10 May - Sydney Sydney Opera House
12 & 13 May - Melbourne Victorian Arts Centre
16 May - Matsudo Kawanami Hall
17, 19, 20 May - Tokyo Hitomi Memorial Hall and Bunka Kaikan

21 May - Osaka Festival Hall
22 May - Fukuoka Fukuoka Palace
24 & 25 May - Hong Kong City Hall
26 May - Bangkok Din Daeng
27 & 28 May - Singapore Victoria Concert Hall
29 May - Kuala Lumpur Malaysian Chinese Association Auditorium

Works to be performed
Bartok, Miraculous Mandarin Suite
Berlioz, Symphonie fantastique
Britten, Four Sea Interludes
Elgar, Cello Concerto
Solists: Antonio Meneses, April 28, May 3, 4, Douglas Cummings, May 9, 12, 25, 28, 29
Mahler, Symphony No.1: No.5
Ravel, La Valse
Rossini, Overture Barber of Seville
Stravinsky, Firebird Suite 1919
Tchaikovsky, Symphony No.6
Webster, Six Pieces Op.6



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Legal system weakened by judges' bias, barrister claims

By Richard Evans

A senior barrister today accuses many judges of helping "significantly" to weaken England's legal system by being heavily biased in favour of prosecutors.

In a book aimed at giving guidance to young barristers, Mr Keith Evans, head of a London set of chambers, identifies "a general drift on the part of judges away from strict impartiality".

"It is a frightening trend and it is operating in this country like a silent rotting agent that is significantly weakening the foundations of our whole system."

The bias of the judiciary in favour of the prosecution, he writes, has results in a situation where an arrested person in England has less protection from the law and from judges than in almost any other English-speaking country.

Mr Evans, aged 46, says that some English judges are the finest in the world, but these are "not noticeably in the majority" and many do not match up to the "expected standards of impartiality".

"What seems to be a vast majority of them favour the prosecution and lean against the defence."

He likens the difference between defending and prosecuting in a criminal case to "riding a bicycle uphill with the wind against you or downhill with the wind behind".

"It is a strange and in some way embarrassing feeling, when turning to prosecute after a long time defending suddenly to find that the judge is with you, that there is this helping hand coming from the bench, that the umpire is playing on your side."

The comments of Mr Evans, who was called to the bar in 1962, were greeted with amazement and astonishment by several leading lawyers last night.

Lord Haleham of St Marylebone, who as Lord Chancellor is head of the judiciary, reserved comment until he had read the book, *Advocacy at the Bar: A Barrister's Guide*, which is published today.

Mr Michael Hill QC, chairman of the Criminal Bar Association, said: "All these quotations reflect the tenor of the book, they are views I do not share."

Sir Arthur Power, secretary of the Bar Council, the profession's governing body, said: "To make a broad statement like this about the English judiciary would seem to be sheer nonsense."

Sir Melford Stevenson, the High Court judge who retired in 1979, described the criticism levelled at his former colleagues as "fibsody nonsense" and said he believed that Mr Evans had committed a professional offence.

"This must be a rather desperate effort to achieve some rather vulgar publicity. It is very odd indeed. This sounds like a book that ought to have a very dirty notice from someone of authority."

"What he says in the book simply is not true. Anybody who spends time in the criminal courts, or in the Magistrates' Court, knows the way in which the defence is put with the utmost clarity to justice."

Mr Evans said yesterday: "I suppose I have probably put my neck on the chopping block. You must remember that this book was written for the benefit of student barristers. It is not meant to be a crusading or reforming book."

"But I really need to be synonymous with everything fair, but every system needs maintenance and servicing. We have been taking things for granted for so long there might be a bit of a shake-up."

In his book he is equally critical of the system of training barristers and says that some of the end products are like "licensed amateurs" who lose cases that should be won.

He says that the lack of training is "shameful" and questions what would happen if dentists, anaesthetists or pilots were allowed to start work with such scant instruction.

VC fetches £110,000



Dr John Tanner, the director of the Royal Air Force Museum, at Hendon, north London, with the only Victoria Cross awarded to a Battle of Britain pilot. It was bought for £110,000 for the RAF Battle of Britain Museum at a Glendinning auction yesterday (Geraldine Norman writes).

The VC, awarded to Wing Commander James Nicolson, was sold with its associated group of medals. The highest price previously paid for a VC group was £52,000.

The National Heritage Memorial Fund had pulled out all the stops to help the RAF Museum with its bid. The RAF had raised £20,000 towards it, a public appeal about £7,000 and the remaining £83,000 came from the Heritage Fund.

Mr Brian Lang, the fund's secretary, said yesterday: "We took into account that ours is a memorial fund to those who died for this country and this made the medal very important to us."

The final bid which secured the medal exactly coincided with the upper limit set by the Heritage Fund, Mr Lang said. One more bid would have won the battle for the underbidder who is understood to have been

Mr Geoffrey Hearn, an English private collector who specializes in RAF medals.

The RAF Museum had offered the Nicolson family £50,000 for the medal group before the sale, in the hope that they would settle for a private deal. "We turned it down because we wanted the publicity generated by the auction to draw attention to the plight of Second World War widows", Mr James Nicolson, the son of Wing Commander Nicolson, who died in a plane crash in 1945, said.

Mr Nicolson said that he and his mother feel passionately about the Government's inattention to this special category of war widows. Because their husbands did not survive to pay adequate national insurance stamps, they receive no state pension until the age of 80.

Mrs Muriel Nicolson, his mother, receives £42 70p a week, and an extra £8 30p because she is over 70.

They intend to give part of the proceeds of the sale to the Rainbow Trust for British war widows and associates. Further moneys will be spent on campaigning and lobbying MPs.

Man acquitted of gangland murder

An east London wholesaler was cleared at the Central Criminal Court yesterday of the gangland execution of an underworld "enforcer". To the cheers and applause of relatives and friends in the public gallery, Mr Thomas George Hole, aged 40, was acquitted on the second day of his trial.

On the direction of Mr Justice French the jury found Mr Hole not guilty of murdering Mr Nicholas Gerard, aged 32, who was shot dead soon after leaving his home in Leather Gardens, Stratford, east London on June 25 last.

Mr William Howard, QC, for the prosecution, had been granted a short adjournment by the judge to consider the Crown's position and when the court resumed he said: "There is no evidence against the accused on which I could possibly invite the jury to convict."

Mr Justice French told the jury that as the Crown was offering no evidence Mr Hole was entitled to be released from custody as soon as possible. He was arrested last November.

The judge added: "This, of course, was an appalling gangland murder, and any right-thinking citizen must be dismayed at the thought that no one has been brought to justice for that murder."

Mr Hole, of Canning Town, east London, left the court guarded by friends and with his head covered.

The prosecution's decision to drop the case came after their "vital" witness, a middle-aged man who had been given the false identity of "Mr Fisher" to protect him, described seeing a man wearing one rubber washing-up glove and suspiciously near a parked Ford Cortina car shortly before the murder.

"Mr Fisher" told the jury that he had seen the man for about 10 minutes and at an identity parade at West Ham police station on November 21 last year he had picked out Mr Hole as the gloved man. "But I was not 100 per cent sure it was the man I had seen that day in June in the car park", he added.

The witness agreed that he

was "in doubt" when he picked out Mr Hole.

Later, when Mr Howard, in the absence of the jury, began to say that the prosecution might, in other circumstances, have been able to call other evidence, Mr Justice French interrupted and said he did not think the comments were "fair" in the circumstances.

Mr Victor Durand, QC, for the defence remarked: "That so-called evidence would have been strenuously contested."

The court heard that Mr Gerard, was ambushed by at least two men wearing boiler suits and Balaklava helmets and armed with two shotguns and a pistol.

Mr Gerard had left home "to go for a drink" after celebrating his daughter's birthday party and as he got into his car he was shot through the heart.

He managed to stagger 100 yards before being shot again and then clubbed to the pavement by his assailants. A shotgun was then levelled at him from point blank range and his "head was blown apart".

The woman with whom Mr Hole was living was a first cousin of Mr Gerard. Mr Hole was arrested in November and was alleged to have been connected with one of the vehicles used by the killers.

Mr Gerard stood trial at the Central Criminal Court in November, 1980, with Mr Ronald Knight, a club owner and husband of Barbara Windsor, the actress. They were cleared of murdering Mr Alfredo "Italian Tony" Zomparelli.

Mr Gerard had long links with the underworld and is believed to have acted as a protection racketeer and "heavy". At the time of his 1980 trial he was serving a seven-year sentence for shooting and wounding a prizefighter in an east London club. He was paroled in January last year.

His late father, Alfred Gerard, was acquitted several years ago of the murder of Thomas "Ginger" Marks, the east London car dealer who was shot dead in 1965 in Bethnal Green, but whose body has never been found.

'Teach young new values in marriage'

By Pat Healy, Social Services Correspondent

Divorce causes more misery than unemployment, a one-day conference on the survival of marriage was told in London yesterday.

Dr Jack Dominian, director of the Marriage Research Centre at the Central Middlesex Hospital, London, said 500,000 men, women and children left the divorce courts every year. They experienced an immeasurable private agony at a public cost of more than £1,000m.

"Accumulatively this group of people have become the largest group of distressed human beings, easily outstripping in numbers those who are unemployed", Dr Dominian said.

Nevertheless, only 14 per cent of the population considered marriage to be an outdated institution, and current trends suggested that only 8 per cent of women and 14 per cent of men would not marry.

But marriage had undergone a revolution which society should recognize. Most marriages were now based on equality between the partners, in which intimacy, affection and friendship were more important than sex.

Young people should be educated in the new values attached to marriage, and industry should recognize that employees' jobs must not destroy their personal relationships.

Dr Dominian's observations, which were based on research, contradicted the views presented by Mr Ferdinand Mount, who heads the family policy group set up by the Prime Minister. He told the conference that church and state should interfere in marriage only for the most pressing reasons and said he resented the assumption that belief in the family could have any party label.

Sir Roger O'Connor, the former Lord Justice of Appeal, and Ms Jacqueline Burgoyne, senior lecturer in sociology at Sheffield Polytechnic, agreed that the position of women in society was the key.

Sir Roger said stability in marriage was closely connected with the economic handicaps of wives, and Ms Burgoyne suggested that continuing education, employment and financial discrimination left discontented wives little choice.

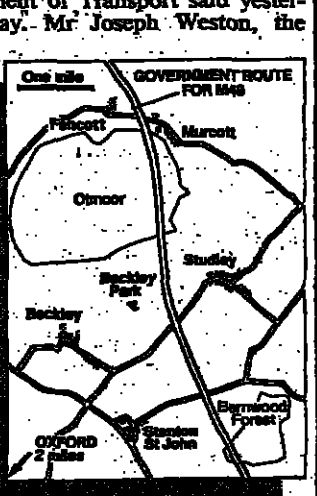
£2 plots for sale to bar M-way

By Hugh Clayton, Environment Correspondent

Opponents of the M40 extension through Oxfordshire hope to frustrate the motorway plan by selling tiny plots of land in its path. A remote field, between two small villages near a butterfly reserve, has been divided into handkerchief-size plots for sale around the world at £2 each.

If the Government wins the public inquiry into the M40 it will have to acquire by compulsory purchase land on the route which owners do not want to sell. Before such purchase it must make "all reasonable efforts" to find the owners. If it cannot find them it must post purchase notices on their land.

"This action alone would not stop us building the road if the Secretary of State decided to go ahead in the light of the inquiry inspector's report", the Department of Transport said yesterday. Mr Joseph Weston, the



Oxfordshire Friends of the Earth campaigner, who is organizing the sale, said: "People will sit on their land if necessary in front of the bulldozer."

He would not name the owner of the 2½-acre field between Fencott and Murcott, saying that he did not want to be presumed by a supporter of the motorway. The land is being sold for a total of £5,000, to buyers in several continents, who will be free to divide their tiny holdings into smaller plots for further sale.

Mr Weston said that 20 plots had been sold to buyers in Brazil and a further 30 to other overseas purchasers. "We have contacts all over the world, and by the end of next week we will have sold the lot and recouped our £5,000 outlay", he said.

One reason for the action was to try to protect the large butterfly reserve at Berrymore Forest, which houses such rarities as the purple emperor. The M40 route chosen by the Government passes through the edge of the forest.

Casino cash exceeds £1,000m

Casino gambling in Britain topped the £1,000m mark for the first time last year, but fewer people played bingo and fewer clubs were operating it, according to the report of the Gaming Board for Great Britain for 1982, published yesterday.

The number of jackpot machines and amusement-with-prizes machines increased, but the number of registered lotteries fell. Casino chip money in the 12 months from September 1, 1981, to August, 1982, increased from £930m to £1,007m, with marginal increases in all regions except the North-west and the East Midlands. In London the figure rose from £637m to £702m, the first significant increase since 1979.

However, for the first time since bingo figures were published by the board, the amount of money staked on bingo in licensed clubs fell, from £491m in 1981 to £469m in 1982. Clubs open for bingo also fell, from 1,510 at the end of 1981 to 1,451 a year later.

The board's biennial survey of bingo showed that the number of regular bingo players fell from about 5.7 million in 1980 to about 5.4 million in 1982. The average daily attendance at bingo was down from 412,311 to 358,550 a 3 per cent decrease.

Craftsman says he was frightened

John Curley, a craftsman, denied at a court martial at Aldershot, Hampshire, yesterday that he had jumped to conclusions when he struck Captain John Apps, who he alleged was making homosexual advances.

Questioned by Mr Charles Kelly, for the defence, Craftsman Curley, from Glasgow, agreed that he had been frightened after "belling" the captain.

He said he had punched Captain Apps in the face as hard as he could because he did not like what was going on, but he did not know he had knocked him unconscious.

Asked if he despised homosexuals, Craftsman Curley said: "I would not say that. I would say, though, that I do not like them touching me."

Captain Apps, aged 32, of the Intelligence Corps, denies committing a civil offence, contrary to the Army Act, of indecent assault on a man last November and an alternative charge of disgraceful conduct of an indecent kind.

He admits being drunk and another offence of failing to ensure that the efficiency of other members of a patrol then stationed in West Germany was not impaired by drink.

The hearing continues today.

Halting pollution down on the farm

From John Young, Agriculture Correspondent, Stoneleigh

A faint but familiar odour permeated the Royal Agricultural Society of England showground at Stoneleigh, Warwickshire as a regiment of machines slurped and churned their way through 700 tons of farm slurry.

If the odour was faint that was partly because the demonstrations were being held at a discreet distance from the pavilions. But it also reflected that modern technology is increasingly directed to the smells as well as the substance of animal waste.

The triennial exhibition sponsored by the society and the Government's Agricultural Development and Advisory Service (ADAS), the largest in Europe, is being held in the

shadow of increasingly tight controls on pollution. Between 1977 and 1981 the number of farmers convicted for polluting water courses rose by 250 per cent.

A recent much quoted, if somewhat bizarre, claim is that the amount of slurry produced each year on British farms would cover all six lanes of the M1 between London and Leeds to a depth of 42ft.

The problem of its disposal has been compounded by the intensification of farming methods, with more animals being kept on fewer and larger holdings.

It is an offence to allow manure or chemical fertilizer to seep through the soil into a watercourse.

Mr John North, head of ADAS's agriculture service, said yesterday that one of the "biggest advances" was in the widespread use of separators to remove solids from the liquid effluent.

That not only greatly simplified the task of spreading manure on the fields and relieved farmworkers of an unpleasant and thankless task, but also greatly increased the nitrogen intake of the soil.

Several research institutes are working on ways of producing methane fuel and protein feed from the anaerobic digestion of cow and pig slurry, although Mr North believes their application is likely to be limited.

Tax relief on your mortgage

A CHANGE FOR THE BORROWER

The way you get basic rate tax relief on your mortgage interest is now different and simpler.

You are no longer getting your tax relief in your PAYE coding. Instead, tax relief is deducted from the interest part of your mortgage payments. So you pay less to your lender (building society, local authority, bank or whoever), although you are paying more in tax. You still get the same amount of tax relief.

If you pay tax at higher rates, your tax office still gives you relief above the basic rate. Not everyone comes within the new system. For example, if your mortgage is over £25,000, your tax office may still have to give you your relief in the old way.

Your lender should have told you by now how your mortgage is affected. If you have not heard, get in touch with your lender as soon as possible.

The Option Mortgage Scheme ended on 31 March. If you had an option mortgage, you will now get the benefit of mortgage interest relief whether or not you pay tax. Your lender should have told you what you have to pay.

The change also means savings in the Inland Revenue from which all taxpayers will benefit.

Inland Revenue

PARLIAMENT April 27 1983

MPs opposed to showing matches in public houses

FOOTBALL

Some continuation of the present arrangements for the televising of football matches would best serve both the game and the public, Mr Neil MacFarlane, Minister for Sport, said when MPs from both sides of the House of Commons expressed concern during question time about the possibility of people having to go to public houses to watch matches on video.

Mr MacFarlane said he would draw the comments of MPs to the attention of representatives of the BBC, the IBA and the Football League when he had further meetings with them later this week.

Mr Kenneth Weeteh (Ipswich, Lab) had asked if the minister had had consultations with the Football League or the joint ITV/BBC committee about the future prospects of television football.

Mr MacFarlane: The televising of football is a matter for the Football League and television authorities. Recognizing, however, the considerable public interest in recent developments, I have been in touch with both sides.

I hope a satisfactory agreement can be reached as the game and the public are best served by a continuation of the present arrangements.

Mr Weeteh: There is a great deal of serious public concern about the possibility of football matches disappearing from television screens and into public houses on video. This would be a blow to family viewing and it is undesirable for football, as a spectator sport, to be linked with the sale of alcohol.

Would he continue to see that



Mr MacFarlane

some other financial solution is found to this difficulty?

Mr MacFarlane: I cannot ensure that I can do what he suggests on his last point because it is very much a matter for the Football League and the television authorities. Negotiations continue. But I sympathize strongly with his assessment of the overall impact of football.

The alternative facilities being suggested are not conducive to all that we have been trying to ensure for the future of this great national game of ours.

Mr Robert Brown (Newcastle upon Tyne, West, Lab): It would be a scandal if children, the elderly, the sick, the disabled and the needy were prevented from viewing televised football, our national sport.

The League has rejected an increase of 16 per cent on the 1979 agreement and during this period there has been an increase in the inflation rate of 60 per cent. Shirt advertising would be the answer to the problem.

Mr MacFarlane: Shirt advertising is a matter very much for the BBC and the IBA. I feel sometimes that Labour MPs are closer to the source of influence than I am on some of these negotiations. They may feel they have greater influence on some of these matters. But he has voiced the disquiet of many.

Mr Douglas Hoyle (Warrington, Lab): Should we call a meeting of the Football League and the television authorities and tell them strongly that millions want to watch on television and the gap between the two sides is not very large.

If he seizes the initiative we will keep it on the television screens.

Mr MacFarlane: One has to remember the locus that the Minister for Sport can have over

New authority to control advertising and programmes

CABLE TV

Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, in a statement in the Commons, outlined the Government's proposals for cable television. The proposals were published today in a White Paper. (Details on facing page.)

Mr Whitelaw said that central to the plan for action for the development of cable television was the creation of a new statutory cable authority. The authority would adopt an advertising code which in essential particulars would follow the existing Independent Broadcasting Authority's code.

The same rules regarding good taste and decency as applied to BBC and IBA programmes would apply to all cable channels and the so-called adult channels had no place in the sort of systems the Government wished to see develop.

The Government is to allow pay-as-you-view but the new authority would have a duty to exclude from pay-as-you-view events customarily covered by BBC and ITV. That restriction was in addition to the proposed ban on the acquisition by cable of exclusive rights to great sporting events such as the cup final.

There would be an obligation to use a certain proportion of British material and to work towards an increase in that proportion as more material became available.

Mr Roy Hattersley, chief Opposition spokesman on home affairs (Birmingham, Spinkbrook, Lab): We on these benches regard cable television as potentially of great benefit to the nation as long as it is properly supervised and controlled. What we fear is the proposals in the White Paper and the whole philosophy of the Government will result in a system which more meets the needs of private profit than the public interest.

It remains our conviction that a satisfactory system to meet both present and future needs of the nation must be based on a national carrier must be British Telecommunications.

If pay-per-view is to be introduced how, despite the bland assurances of his statement, are the interests of the viewers outside the pay-per-view area to be maintained? I welcome the control to be placed on advertising in the cable sector, but what does he mean by standards which broadly follow those required by the IBA programme companies? Can we be assured that does not mean standards will be any lower than present standards and present standards will be maintained?

Is there sufficient advertising to go round or will the introduction of this new channel imperil independent producers simply because there is not enough for all the channels?

We welcome the limit to be placed on foreign material to be broadcast. Can he tell us what a proper proportion of home produced material means? The Opposition regard a proper proportion as certainly no less than the proportion presently required of the independent companies.

We very much welcome his rejection of an adult channel.

Finally, why all the fuss? Why cannot we have the legislation which he promised the House on December 2. How does he reconcile

parts of the programme in the White Paper with his assurance that material progress would not come until the House had an opportunity to vote on the Bill?

Mr Whitelaw: He suggested British Telecommunications should have a monopoly. The Secretary of State for Industry (Mr Patrick Jenkins) and I believe that they should have a substantial share but not exclusive.

On pay-per-view, I believe the significant we have proposed are reasonable. Advertising standards will be the same; I can give that assurance.

In the long run it will be for the cable authority to decide exactly what proportion of foreign material there should be. But the cable authority has an extra duty imposed on it above that on IBA and that is that it must be a progressive reduction of foreign material. We do not want to preempt a Bill which would eventually come to be passed through this House.

Mr Geoffrey Johnson Smith (East Grinstead, C): When does he expect to grant the first extension of licences?

Mr Whitelaw: I would not wish to commit myself on that. It depends on a large number of factors.

Mr John Gilling (Newcastle upon Tyne, Lab): The POE... I believe that cable should not be developed separately. It would be best to have a single integrated telecommunications. The best people to do this are BT, the best people to do this are BT. They have the necessary skills, knowledge and physical assets.

Mr Whitelaw: I have nothing to add

in saying that BT should have a substantial share but we have decided not to have an exclusive one. Mr Ian Wright (Teesside, Teesside, SDP): What are the implications of all this for the BBC? What are the Central Policy Review Staff doing with regard to the BBC, having read about the dismemberment or even the abolition of the BBC in the newspapers in recent days?

Mr Whitelaw: You do not believe everything that you read. The White Paper makes clear the future position of the BBC.

Mr Jonathan Aitken (Thames, East, C): In view of the concern expressed by Labour MPs about the prospect of the BBC being made out of cable television, will he consider seriously the view that these cable franchises, like some others I can think of, may well turn out to be licences to lose money. (Laughter)

The figure of 100,000 viewers per station may turn out to be woefully inadequate. In view of the experience in America of cable television, the cable authority must make sure, to preserve jobs and livelihoods in the industry, that the finances of cable operators are solid.

Mr Whitelaw: There are a great many people who believe they see a future in cable and wish to go into it. They are not the only ones. They go into it. That is our society; it is a perfectly proper thing.

After repeating the statement in the House of Lords, Lord Elton, Secretary of State, Home Office, said there would be a debate on cable television on May 23.

The date for a debate in the Commons has not yet been fixed.

MCC tour of S Africa would threaten game

CRICKET

Nobody should be in any doubt about the serious threat to organized cricket if there were to be a tour of South Africa by the MCC, Mr Neil MacFarlane, Minister for Sport, said when MPs from both sides of the House of Commons expressed concern during question time about the possibility of people having to go to public houses to watch matches on video.

Mr MacFarlane said he would draw the comments of MPs to the attention of representatives of the MCC, the IBA and the Football League when he had further meetings with them later this week.

Mr Kenneth Weeteh (Ipswich, Lab) had asked if the minister had had consultations with the MCC or the joint ITV/BBC committee about the future prospects of television football.

Mr MacFarlane: The televising of football is a matter for the Football League and television authorities. Recognizing, however, the considerable public interest in recent developments, I have been in touch with both sides.

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Would he continue to see that

Funds sought to spring clean Britain

ENVIRONMENT

Mr Giles Shaw, Under Secretary for the Environment, said he was reviewing the amount of central funds with which the Government supported the "Keep Britain Tidy" group which had launched the Beautiful Britain 1983 campaign. It was high time, he said, that people were motivated to take greater pride in their own streets.

He had been asked in the Commons by Mr Eric Ogden (Liverpool, West Derby, SDP) for an increase in the amount of money available to local authorities, especially those in urban areas, for the reduction, collection, and disposal of litter from the streets.

Mr Shaw said it was for individual local authorities to determine, within their overall budgets, the resources they allocated to their street cleaning responsibilities.

Education and persuasion of the public not to drop litter was the key to solving the litter problem. He particularly commended the "Keep Britain Tidy" system for adoption by authorities.

Mr Ogden said many streets and public places were littered with bits of rubbish and that it was time for a "Spring Cleaning Britain" operation to encourage those who wanted to take care of their environment, to respect it and take pride in it, and to discourage those who dumped their rubbish or litter in the wrong places.

Seat belt wearing

Mr Lynda Chalker, Under Secretary of State for transport, said in a Commons written reply that the proportion of car drivers wearing seat belts had gone up from 50 per cent in January to 93 per cent in February and 95 per cent in March.

Second £3m to be paid over

ADVICE BUREAUX

Government funding for the National Association of Citizens Advice Bureaux for the whole of the current financial year would be maintained on the normal basis, Dr Gerard Vaughan, Minister for Consumer Affairs, announced in a Commons statement.

He said the review, which the association and he had agreed was urgently needed, would be chaired by Sir Douglas Lovelock. A firm of management consultants would be appointed to assist in its work. A senior partner of the firm chosen would also be a member of the review team. A third member would be appointed and he hoped to announce a name shortly.

The terms of reference would be "to review the functioning of the National Association of Citizens Advice Bureaux, to make recommendations, with a view to ensuring that the association gives the best possible service and support to local bureaux, and that the monies available to the association are spent in the most effective way."

The terms of reference and the membership I have announced (he said) have been agreed with the national association. I have asked the chairman to report to me in the next six months. The review team will work closely with the national association, and the report will be made available to them once I have received it. I propose that the report should be published.

The management consultants assisting the review team will examine the staffing and management structure of the national association and will be asked to complete their work within the next three months. In accordance with normal practice, we shall be seeking tenders at once for this job on the basis of a short list to be discussed with Sir Douglas Lovelock and the national association.

Complete agreement has been reached with the national association that the review should be carried forward on this basis. In the light of this, and my helpful discussions with the national association, I can confirm that Government funding for NACAB for the whole of the current financial year will be maintained on the normal basis.

Mr Peter Archer, chief Opposition spokesman on trade (Warrley, West, Lab) said the review would undermine the assurance to the National Association that at least they might proceed to budget on a proper basis and not on the hand-to-mouth basis originally proposed.

No one (he went on) will dispute that a body in receipt of public money should submit to a review relating to how that money should be spent, and the National Association will welcome such a review. The House will note with pleasure that the inquiry into staffing and efficiency is not to deal with the management of the association's political activities, which emanated from its department. However these allegations originated, he has still not said clearly and unambiguously that they are without foundation.

If he was anxious local bureaux should receive the best possible services and support, he should send a circular to local authorities.

Dr Vaughan: As to various allegations, I would have been quite improper when complaints were put to me, for me not to have passed on the general nature of what was being said. I have announced the terms of reference for the review and it is not for me to comment further on its scope which, within the terms of reference, is a matter for the independent review team to determine.

I have made it clear I would have expected local authorities to continue to support the local bureaux and I have said I would look at the possibility of a circular.

Mr Robert Hicks (Bodmin, C): As one who was critical of the initial decision, I am grateful he is to restore the second £3m. Uncertainty had been created as a consequence of the events of the last ten days or so and he should consider issuing a circular to local authorities in order that they continue to support this most worthwhile voluntary organization.

Dr Vaughan: I will look carefully at the issuing of a circular.

Mr John Home Robertson (Berwick and East Lothian, Lab): Is this inquiry he has just announced going to extend to the autonomous political activities, which emanated from its department?

Dr Vaughan: I resent his suggestion that this is an inquiry. It is an agreed review. There have been three letters from Scotland.

Mr William Reid-Davies (Thames West, C): Will the review be able to consider if there is a party political bias and if he is able to make recommendations accordingly, because certainly in those bureaux I have been conversant with over many years there has been a party political bias.

Dr Vaughan: The terms of reference are designed to be as constructive and helpful to the movement as a whole as possible. It will be for the independent review to determine exactly what they look at within the terms of reference.

Mr David Emms (Norwich North, Lab): This review is utterly unnecessary. His intervention has caused a great deal of concern, not so much by the public, who already have a great respect for the work of the bureaux, but by the many thousands of volunteers.

Dr Vaughan: I accept there has been some concern. It is generated by remarks of the kind he has made.

Mr Lewis Carter-Jones (Eccles, Lab): Will he make a public apology to all members of the bureaux, who have given their services willingly, for the slur that has been cast on them.

Dr Vaughan: I have never at any time cast any aspersions or allegations against local bureaux.

I would have thought (he said later) that I was the person who had been most witch-hunted.

Brandt report warning cannot be ignored

HOUSE OF LORDS

The keynote of the second Brandt Commission report was its sense of urgency and its warning of the danger of self-satisfaction and complacency, Lord Elton, Secretary of State, Home Office, said when he opened a debate on the report in the House of Lords.

The report warned of the impending crisis in the world economy and put forward an emergency programme calling for immediate action to ward off the economic and social collapse that threatened the world.

A review approach was needed. The last Labour Government increased aid in every year bar one. The Conservative Government had so far decreased aid every year bar one.

Lord Banks (L) said the report should be seen as a warning cry that could not be ignored and an emergency programme that ought to be considered with urgency. He feared the reaction of the Government and of the countries of the north would be a case of too little too late. There would not be the political will to get things done.

The Bishop of Exeter, the Rt Rev John Eastaugh, said the Church urged the setting up of a code of ethics to establish control on the London commodity markets. This was one of the keys of the Brandt Commission report.

Lord Walston (SDP) said the indebtment of Third World was now rising to astronomical heights. As a result of this, the new amount of aid to the Third World had shrunk from a peak of \$34 billion in 1978 to \$8 billion at present.

The only answer to the growing problem of the widening gap between the wealth of the rich nations and the poverty of the poor nations was to alter the terms of trade between the rich and poor countries.

Comments condemned

Lord Elton: I have considerable sympathy with him. The question of a reference to the DPP would be for the police who would have to be aware of the circumstances to a greater degree than I am.

The right of free speech is very precious. I understand that this utterance was made in a debate on something called "Capitalist imperialism and terrorist violence" and I gather, from the little, if any, support that does perhaps suggest we should not dignify this remark with a great deal of approbation when it was an extraordinarily foolish, unpleasant, distasteful and dishonest thing to do, but no more than that.

Lord Underhill (Lab): These particular observations are abhorred and repudiated by the Labour Party as much as any other section of our community who appreciate the remarks of the minister that the particular resolution, a pro-IRA resolution, was overwhelmingly rejected in a democratic way by the hundreds of delegates present with only a handful supporting.

Ripper hunt chief bows out with onslaught on critics

Mr Ronald Gregory, Chief Constable of West Yorkshire, spoke yesterday of his intense personal grief for the 13 women victims of the Yorkshire Ripper. He also attacked those who criticized his force while using the "most exact science of hindsight."

In his final report before retiring in June, Mr Gregory, aged 61, explained for the first time after the long inquiry why he did not quit and how the "lost pride" of the force, Britain's third largest, has been restored.

Mr Gregory, presenting his farewell report to the police authority at Wakefield after 42 years' police service, took the unusual step of reviewing his work during his 14 years with the old and new West Yorkshire forces.

He said it was a matter of "deep regret" that the Ripper was not caught earlier. But the number of positive and constructive suggestions received during the hunt were "very limited."

He praised his officers, who were left with broken hearts and whose health suffered under the pressure, particularly those facing the worst of media criticism.

It is understood that he may have been referring mainly to Mr George Oldfield, the assistant chief constable, who led most of the hunt. He is now off duty recovering from the effects of a heart attack and last night did not wish to comment.

Mr Gregory announced his retirement on the eve of a Press Council report criticizing him and other senior officers for "beating with satisfaction" at a conference announcing the arrest of a Yorkshire Ripper suspect, Peter Sutcliffe, a lorry driver, of Bradford. Sutcliffe is serving a life sentence for the murders.

inner city areas, resulting from a growing awareness of social inequalities, poor housing and limited opportunities. Often results in the commission of anti-social acts.

"It is significant that of the crimes detected during 1982, 54 per cent were committed by people under 21 years of age."

It might therefore be appropriate for the theorists to return to some original thoughts on the treatment of offenders and to examine basic philosophies, he said.

Restoration of the traditional values of individual responsibility and respect for the rights of others might go some way to improving the crime trends.

It would also be appropriate to reintroduce the "deterrent element" in sentencing, which, he said, in recent years had been neglected in favour of the "curative, reformative element."

More severe prison sentences are the answer to those who call for the death penalty. Mr Patrick Kennedy, chairman of the Scottish Police Federation, said yesterday. He called for life sentences to mean imprisonment for life.

He told the federation's annual conference: "No mercy should be shown to those who show no mercy."

Killing police officers and murders committed with a gun or motivated by lust, greed, or politics should all mean a lifetime in prison, he said.

Crime was a growth industry and there was no evidence that the number of convictions deterred criminals. "For too long life has been too easy for the criminal. The blood of our young police officers continues to flow on the streets of our cities, battles are being won, but not the war against crime."



Mr Gregory: "Retreat is alien to me"



Sixth-formers of Dyffryn Conwy School in Llanrwst, Gwynedd, winners of the Stockpiller competition this year, in London yesterday to receive their trophy. The competition is an investment game organized by the British Junior Chamber and sponsored by Williams and Glyn's Bank (Photograph: Suresh Karadia).

Export ban on Iran ship may be lifted

The £40m supply ship Kharg has spent the third anniversary of her completion in mothballs on the Tyne.

On the day that the 20,000-ton vessel was handed over to the Swan Hunter Walker yard to her owners, the Iranian Government, she hit a diplomatic reef when President Carter attempted to save the United States hostages in Iran failed tragically.

In a gesture of solidarity with the Americans, the British Government refused an export licence for the vessel even though the Iranians had paid the full price.

When the hostages issue was resolved Ayatollah Khomeini's regime pressed for delivery of the Kharg, insisting that she was needed in the war against Iraq.

The Kharg again ran into sensitive waters. The Government had no wish to be seen supplying military hardware to either side in the conflict, so the vessel remained tied up and the 120 Iranian officers and men who had been waiting in Newcastle for six months went home.

There is now a faint hope that the impasse will end. A Department of Trade spokesman has said that the ship's armaments had been removed and that the Kharg can no longer be described as a lethal defence equipment, which would have made it subject to an export licence. The vessel had been armed with a 60mm automatic gun.

The Department of Trade said: "The position is much the same but we are now waiting to hear from the Iranian authorities about the vessel, for them to go through the formal procedures for collecting it."

The rates factor Tories lose main target

By David Walker
Local Government Correspondent

To Mr Tom King, the Secretary of State for the Environment, goes the unwelcome credit of raising local Conservatives of what ought to have been their main election issue - high rates in Labour-controlled councils.

The rate support grant settlement announced last December has had the effect in most parts of England and Wales outside London, of producing rate increases considerably less than in recent years.

In the West Midlands and the other conurbations and in the big city districts controlled by Labour, such as Nottingham, Labour councils have found it possible to hold rates steady or in some cases even cut them.

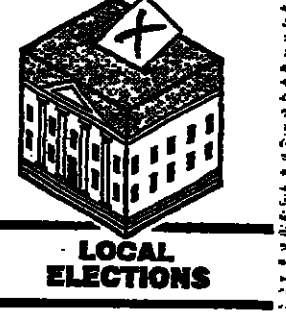
In Bristol Mr Claude Draper, the leader of the Labour-controlled council, said: "The Tories have tried to make rates a factor in these elections. But the city rate has gone up by only 3.2 per cent."

None the less the Conservatives, for example in Birmingham, are making much of having cut the rates only to find that a Labour-controlled authority, the West Midlands county council, raised its share.

Rates aside, the issue appearing most often in Labour manifestos is, not surprisingly, unemployment.

In Nottingham the Labour-controlled council has recently bought the former head offices of Raleigh Industries and plans to convert some of it into meeting rooms and workshops for one of the city's West Indian organizations.

The Conservatives oppose the move. But Mr Leonard Maynard, the Labour leader, said: "We have had the last laugh, since this project was not only approved by the Conserva-



LOCAL ELECTIONS

tive ministers at the Department of the Environment but is also being aided by Government inner cities money."

In most areas, the elections see sitting councillors defending their records.

In the city councils of the North, councillors are defending a tried and trusted recipe of municipal socialism that until this year generally required above average spending and rates.

In Chelmsford, Essex, the controlling Conservatives are appealing for extension of the popular trust that has kept them in office for more than a generation. Similarly in a Labour stronghold such as Hull, Mr Patrick Doyle, the Labour leader, said: "We are asking for an endorsement of Labour rule in a major city, an example of socialism working successfully at the local level." Unlike in last year's elections, government officials consider that none of the likely results will make much impact on the overall patterns of council spending.

On current estimates councils in England and Wales are spending, during 1983-84, about £75m in excess of government targets: since councils cannot make supplementary rates, even a Labour sweep, which is considered unlikely, would make little difference to the total.

White Paper details strict role of new broadcasting authority

Sporting events in, 'adult' films out as cable TV gets go-ahead

The Government yesterday published its policy for the expansion of cable television in Britain, which will be strictly controlled by a new authority whose members will be selected by the Home Office in consultation with the Department of Industry.

The Government has been considering its policy since Lord Hunt of Tanworth completed his report last October, recommending that cable television be given approval to expand. The Home Office has been reluctant to sanction any large-scale expansion until the legislation creating the cable authority is in place, but has agreed to the award of 12 pilot franchises.

The Government remains committed to encouraging the use of the cable network for purposes other than entertainment. To that end it is insisting that all cable systems be laid in a particular technical configuration

By Bill Johnston, Electronics Correspondent

so that they can easily be upgraded.

It has tried to keep right of its original policy, which centred on a cable system being laid around the UK, used by subscribers for shipping, banking and information services.

These "inter-active" services will be in a minority. The general entertainment channels will fund the cable networks.

The policy outlined in the White Paper published yesterday has taken more than a year to formulate. The Information Technology Advisory Panel (ITAP) prepared a report for the Cabinet Office, which was published last March and recommended that early approval be given to cable operators to expand their networks.

Lord Hunt was commissioned last summer to study how an

expansion of cable television would damage the broadcasting networks of the BBC and the IBA.

The cable authority is the mainstay of the government's policy. It will award franchises to companies to serve about 100,000 homes. Very few will have more than half a million. All these franchises will be given for an initial period of 12 years.

The White Paper says: "The Cable Authority's ultimate sanction will be the non-renewal or premature withdrawal of an operator's franchise. Short of that it will have the power to direct that certain programmes or channels should not appear on cable and, after issuing a warning, to subject an operator for a period to a tighter degree of supervision than normal."

The future of public broadcasting is assured by requiring that all the cable systems carry the public services and those of the satellite on which the BBC has 2 channels to be serviced by 1985-6. "Pay per view" services will not be allowed if they deprive the public networks of events usually covered by existing services.

The much discussed "porn channels" will not be allowed. The White Paper says: "The Government does not believe that so-called 'adult channels' should be available on cable systems."

The Government has also considered British film makers. The White Paper says: "The Government accepts that operators may need to use a significant amount of overseas material, particularly from the United States. In the early years, but the Cable Authority will have a duty to work towards a progressive increase in the proportion of British programming."

Initially the Government will award about 12 licences, all to companies under British or European control. These franchises will be awarded jointly by the Department of Industry and the Home Office before the establishment of the cable authority.

In formulating its policy the Government has been in a dilemma because its intention to expand cable television might conflict with its telecommunications policy.

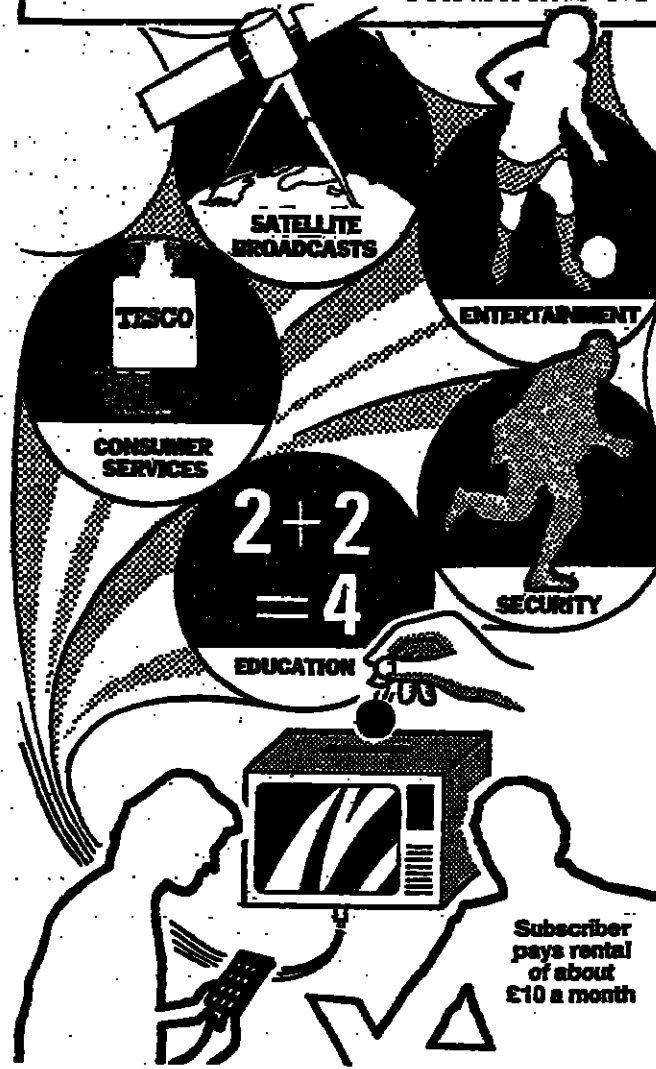
To ensure that there appears to be consistency it has given British Telecom and its privately owned rival, Mercury, the exclusive right to carry programming between local cable systems.

The Government has also had to contend with the division between the Home Office and the Department of Industry. The former was not impressed by arguments that self-regulation would suffice and had little intention of agreeing unless matters of taste and decency were monitored and controlled.

The Department of Industry wanted to push ahead with minimum regulation to stimulate the British electronics and cable industries.

The Home Office, in the end, has had a significant role in shaping the policy outlined in the White Paper and will have substantial influence in the future.

PROPOSED MULTI-CHANNEL TV



How the system will work

Details of other proposals in the White Paper are:

Cable technology
Cable providers may use star switched or tree-and-branch technology. Coaxial cable and optical fibre will be permitted.

The cable authority
A new statutory cable authority will be established to award cable franchises and to exercise a measure of oversight over the services provided.

The authority will initially have a chairman and six other members, though the legislation will enable this figure to be varied in the light of experience within certain limits. Members will be appointed by the Home Secretary in close consultation with the Secretary of State for Industry. Appointments will be for renewable periods of five years and will be part time.

The authority will be financed by fees paid by franchise holders.

Franchising
Companies wishing to obtain licences as cable providers or franchises as cable operators must be under UK/EC control. Central and local government and religious and political groups will be excluded

from any stake in the ownership of companies holding franchises or licences.

There will be no specific statutory restriction on the participation of existing telecommunications, broadcasting or newspaper interests. In all cases there must be the opportunity for competing bids to be submitted.

Broadcasting policy
A wider range of advertising will be possible on cable than on independent broadcasting. With appropriate safeguards some sponsorship will also be permitted.

Programme services
Cable operators will be required to relay the four existing BBC and IBA television channels appropriate for their area. They will also be required to relay BBC and IBA radio services. All systems will have to include provision for the five DBS channels allocated to this country by international agreement.

Cable operators will be allowed to relay foreign broadcasting services. There are a number of other detailed matters, including the privacy implications of cable, to which the Government intends to give further thought in preparing the cable legislation.

Fire safety review on double glazing

A team of fire safety experts will report to the Government within the next few days on the dangers of fixed double glazing. The urgent review comes after recent fires in which victims died after being trapped in rooms by fixed double glazing which cannot be opened.

The Home Office acted after a fire in Hayes, Middlesex, killed five young sisters.

On Tuesday two teenage girls died after being trapped in an upstairs bedroom in Nuneaton, Warwickshire, and in London a young mother died in a fire in a flat fitted with double glazing, although it was of a type which could be opened.

A Home Office spokesman said yesterday: "The Fire Service Inspectorate were asked to do a review after the Hayes fire; now they are looking into the Midlands fire too. It will be a very quick review, but they have to look at that fire too, especially in the present climate of concern."

The team from the inspectorate is expected to report to both the Home Office and the Department of the Environment. The result could be a change in building regulations or a big publicity campaign outlining the dangers.

The Greater London Council is already running a television

campaign. In the advertisement a young woman trapped in a smoke-filled room batters helplessly with a chair against a closed, double glazed window.

Experts believe that most of the problems centre on sealed units made with toughened glass, often specified by customers for security reasons.

Mr Michael Doherty, senior fire prevention officer for London, said that sealed windows were the cheapest form of double glazing and were often chosen by do-it-yourself enthusiasts. "We have difficulty in rescuing people when these are fitted. It is not easy to break the glass when you are hanging off a ladder."

The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents first raised the problem four years ago, "but nobody took any notice then", it said.

"We always maintain that you should have and opening window in every room so that you can get out in case of fire."

The society's home and leisure safety committee is meeting in a few weeks with a view to pressing for legislation and a change in building regulations to outlaw fixed double glazing.

Double glazing is a £400m a year industry in Britain and is fitted in one in seven homes.

One in eight dependent on benefit

By Pat Healy, Social Services Correspondent

The number of people depending for their incomes on supplementary benefit has reached about seven million, or one in eight of the population. That means nearly three million people have been added to the total since the present Government took office.

The new figure, disclosed yesterday in a Commons written reply, underlines the assertion in a report published today by the Child Poverty Action Group that Government economic and social policies have increased the numbers in poverty, worsened the tax burden on the poor, and affected them most through cuts.

The report says the social costs of the Government's economic policies have been borne most directly by unemployed people. But the previous Labour Government began many of the present trends. *Thatcherism and the Poor* (CPAG, 1 Macklin Street, London, WC2B 3NH, £2.25).

BBC was 'unfair' to mill owner

By Kenneth Gosling

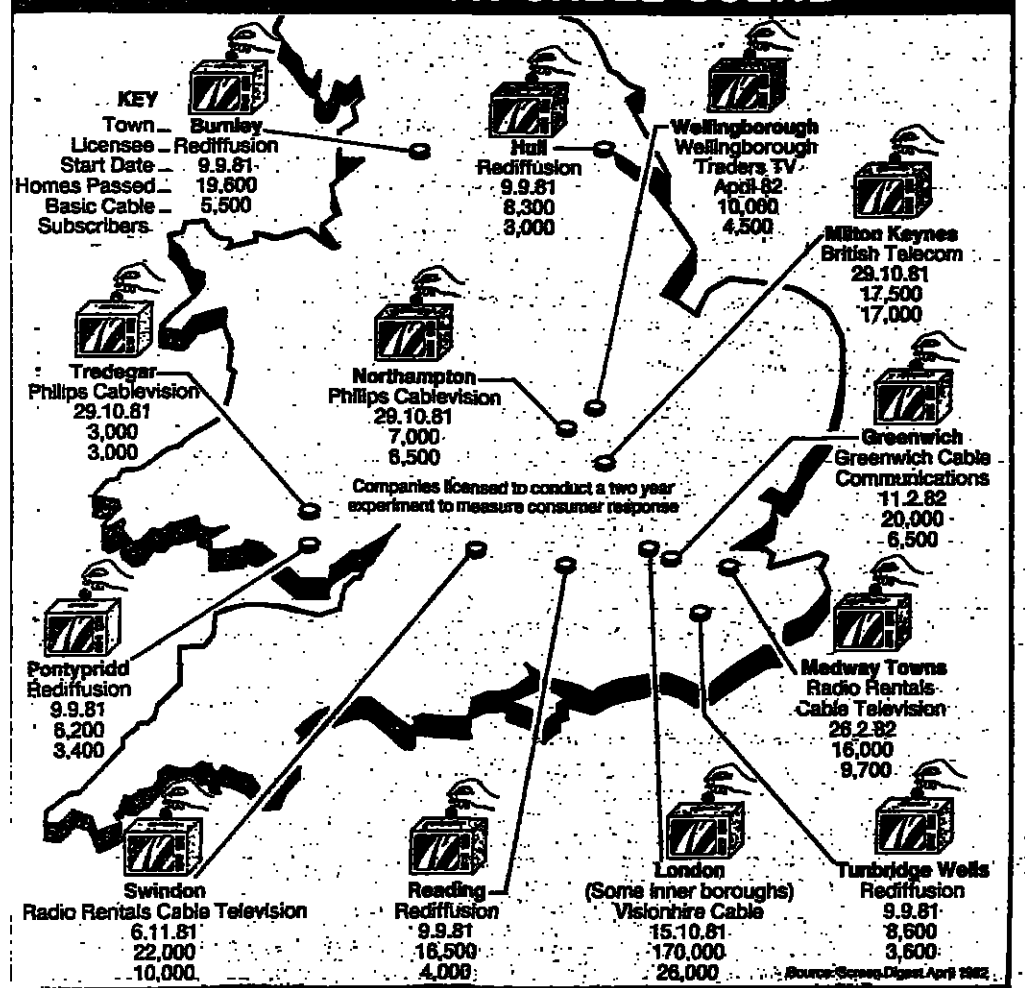
A former cotton mill owner was unfairly depicted as "uncaring" in a BBC television programme about the disease byssinosis, suffered by workers in the spinning industry, the Broadcasting Complaints Commission has ruled.

Colonel H C Owtram, aged 82, who lives near Lancaster, complained that he was misled about the true nature of the programme, which he understood would be about the history of the cotton industry.

His interview, he said, had been heavily edited, none of the historical material was used and he was given no indication that the programme would be about byssinosis or that the title would be *Dust to Dust*.

In reply the BBC said they were sure the colonel had been told his interview would be edited; the programme, they said, had exposed the fact that lack of investment had been a main factor contributing to the disease.

CURRENT UK CABLE SCENE



TO ALL HOUSE OF FRASER SHAREHOLDERS

From Lord Duncan-Sandys c.n. and R. W. Rowland, Directors of House of Fraser, expressing a contrary view to the Board.

SEPARATING HARRODS IS THE WAY TO GET HOUSE OF FRASER TOGETHER

At the EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of House of Fraser plc to be held on 6 May 1983 every vote cast will be critical in ensuring the successful future of Harrods and the rest of the House of Fraser stores

Resolution
Accepting the recommendation of the Board that Harrods should remain within the House of Fraser group and expressing confidence in the Board

For ☐ Abstain ☐ Against ☒

Vote **AGAINST** the resolution as shown and post your proxy card today

By voting **AGAINST** the resolution you will be voting in **FAVOUR** of a **DEMERGER** OF HARRODS

As a shareholder you should consider:

1. The advantages of owning shares in two public companies.
2. The advantages of receiving dividends from both companies.
3. The possibility of an increased value on your shares.
4. What you could possibly lose by a demerger.
5. What you will probably gain.

SEPARATE HARRODS-AND LET'S GET THE HOUSE OF FRASER TOGETHER

Lord Duncan-Sandys c.n. and R. W. Rowland, Directors of House of Fraser, strongly support the demerger of Harrods.

Six of Nkomo's senior aides acquitted but not released

From Stephen Taylor, Harare

Six senior members of Mr Joshua Nkomo's former guerrilla army were acquitted of all charges in the Zimbabwe treason trial in the High Court yesterday. They were immediately served with detention orders in the cells below, while awaiting warrant of liberation.

A seventh was convicted of illegal arms concealment.

Mr Dumiso Dabengwa, the former head of intelligence for Zipra, was found not guilty of treason and involvement in the storing of arms on farms owned by Mr Nkomo's Patriotic Front Party. Mr Lookout Masuku, formerly a lieutenant-general and deputy commander of the Zimbabwe Army, and four other senior Zipra commanders were found not guilty on the weapons charge, having already been acquitted of treason.

The underlying political aspect of the trial was given emphasis as Mischek Velapi, the only one of the accused to be convicted, was sentenced to start a three-year term for assisting in the concealment of weapons. He turned to the packed courtroom and shouted: "Zee. Stand firm against the

forces of negation". Zee is the rallying cry of the Patriotic Front and Zipra, the party's former military wing.

Spectators responded in a chorus with cries of Zee and women danced as they left the courtroom. A crowd of about 50 had gathered on one of Harare's main highways, Samora Machel Avenue, to sing nationalist songs before dispersing peacefully.

The detention order against the six, served under Section 49 of the emergency powers regulations, provides that they can be held for up to 30 days. No reason need initially be given. They may appeal to a review tribunal, but its findings are not binding and the regulations contain provision for indefinite detention.

Mr Dabengwa and Mr Masuku have been in custody for more than 13 months, having been detained after the discovery of huge quantities of arms on farms owned by the party and amid accusations of a plot to overthrow Mr Robert Mugabe's Government.

The other defendants - Mr Velapi, Mr Isaac Nyathi, Mr

Masala Sibanda, Mr Nicholas Nkomo and Mr Tshaka Moyo - were initially detained at about the same time.

The trial started on February 7. Mr Justice Squires sitting with two assessors heard evidence from 55 witnesses over 28 days. In his three-hour judgment he indicated that in the mass of conflicting evidence the court had to a large extent be guided by the reliability of witnesses.

The judge said in summary that he believed that the arms concealing had been carried out by middle to low-ranking Zipra officers in the uncertain period after independence when suspicion of Zanla, the military wing of the ruling Zanu (PF) party, was high.

Hostility between the two forces had led to two bouts of faction fighting and the men may have wanted the weapons either for protection or revenge.

This suspicion had extended in the ranks to mistrust of Zipra leaders, who were regarded as having "sold out" to the authorities.

This attitude, Mr Squires said, should be contrasted with

the behaviour of Mr Dabengwa, Mr Masuku and Mr Nkomo.

"On all such occasions (of rising tension) it was the intervention of the leaders which prevented further clashes", the judge said. Their behaviour suggested quite the opposite of scheming against the Government.

The judge said that the main prosecution witnesses - who admitted being involved in the arms concealing and thus had to be treated as accomplices whose testimony was suspect - had given evasive and conflicting evidence.

● LONDON: Joshua Nkomo, who remains a self-imposed exile in Britain, last night described the issue of new detention orders against his senior colleagues as a tragedy for his country, Henry Stanhope writes.

Speaking from his London flat, he said of the court verdict: "It supports what I have been saying all the time - that to say we were trying to overthrow the Mugabe Government was a lie and that everyone knew it was a lie. It was a very dangerous political gimmick."

German bishops tolerate the bomb

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

In a long-awaited declaration on peace and nuclear weapons, West Germany's Roman Catholic bishops yesterday declared that nuclear deterrence was no long-term guarantee for peace, but had to be tolerated at present as a means of preventing war.

In a 70-page booklet which they have spent five years preparing, the bishops called on the State and on society to look for an alternative to the threats based on weapons of mass destruction. They said that in a modern atomic age there was no longer any such thing as a "just war", nor was war a permissible means to carry out policy.

The bishops said, however, that a state had the right to defend itself, and peace depended on resistance to two main dangers: the threats posed by totalitarian systems and the threat of a high level of armaments.

The report, presented yesterday by Cardinal Joseph Höffner, chairman of the Bishops' Conference, is likely to prove controversial, although it studiously attempted not to take sides in the political debate on the stationing of new Nato missiles in Germany. It has already been criticized by left-wing Catholics for not going far enough in condemning nuclear weapons and not specifically outlawing the concept of the first use of nuclear weapons.

In an imperfect world nuclear deterrence was a legitimate temporary means of preserving peace, the bishops said, but deterrence had to be a step on the way towards disarmament.

Three important criteria governed the ethical permissibility of deterrence: existing or planned military arms should make war neither more wageable nor more likely; only those arms should be deployed which are oriented to the aim of preventing war; and, above all, weapons should not aim for military superiority but aim for a stable situation in which no side could make military or political use of its weapons systems.

The bishops said that, in drawing up these criteria, they agreed with the American Catholic bishops, who intend to publish their peace declaration next month. But in the draft text the Americans condemn the use of all atomic weapons, whereas the German bishops do not specify which weapons would or would not be permissible in a conflict, and emphasize instead man's duty to prevent any kind of war breaking out.

The latter said that even deterrence is no absolute guarantee against war.

The use of atomic weapons or other means of mass destruction for the obliteration of population centres and other civilian targets could never be justified. A war of annihilation is never permissible, they said.

The bishops' statement has been welcomed with clear relief by Chancellor Kohl's Government as much for what it does not say as for its calls for peace. There was clear nervousness in Christian Democratic circles that the bishops would lend greater open support to the peace movement and would adopt a radical stand on the Nato weapon. The bishops are understood to have listened carefully to the advice of Herr Alois Menz, the Deputy Foreign Minister and a leading lay Catholic, on this issue.

Andropov interview, page 7

Nicaragua accuses US of sending arms to rebel front

Managua (NYT) - Managua has accused the Reagan Administration of sending arms to a new rebel front on Nicaragua's southern border with Costa Rica.

"We have absolute certainty that the Central Intelligence Agency has sent bazookas, Chinese AK rifles and 60mm and 81mm mortars to Costa Rica," Señor Daniel Ortega, a member of the Nicaraguan junta, said.

In an interview on Monday night, Señor Ortega offered no evidence but said that the arms shipments, starting late last year, were destined for Eden Astora Gómez, the Nicaraguan leader who turned against the ruling Sandinistas, and other anti-Sandinistas. He described the weapons as similar to those that he said the CIA had sent to the rebel groups operating from Honduras.

The shipments showed that the United States was investing in opening a new front in the south. He said they had taken place behind the back of the Costa Rican authorities.

Señor Ortega rejected accusations that Nicaragua intended to install Soviet missiles, a notion that he said had arisen only in the mind of the US Administration. "Our country will never be turned into the military base of anyone."

He charged President Reagan with lying about Nicaragua's missile plans because of the President's despair to justify his unjustifiable warfare policy before Congress and international opinion. Señor Ortega said that Nicaragua had asked for international cooperation to defend itself against outside aggression and would continue to do so.

Countless American aircraft had transported military equipment from US bases in Panama to Honduras in recent weeks.

Señor Ortega also repeated Nicaragua's denials that it is shipping arms to Salvadoran



Señor Ortega: Challenges US to prove its charges.

guerrillas and challenged Washington to prove accusations that Managua was arming the rebels.

● WASHINGTON: Nicaragua has converted an irregular guerrilla force into a sizeable army with the help of the Cubans, East Germans, Bulgarians, Russians and French, according to US defence officials, NYT reports.

According to the officials, Nicaragua's regular Army consists of 22,000 troops, augmented by 25,000 reservists and some 30,000 militiamen. The reservists receive three months of active-duty training and the militia is given rudimentary military instruction. Not all of the militiamen have rifles.

In contrast, the Salvadoran armed forces consist of about 32,000 men, including some 10,000 in what are called the security forces. These forces, whose officers are graduates of El Salvador's military academy, regularly perform military functions.

Cuban military advisers played a key role in organizing the Nicaraguan Army, according to US officials, while the East Germans did the same for the country's internal security apparatus.

The Nicaraguans had sent 70 pilots to Bulgaria for training.

Tass story disgusting, Rifkind says

Moscow (Reuters) - Mr Malcolm Rifkind, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, angrily accused the Soviet news agency Tass last night of producing a "disgusting" report on Northern Ireland as he ended three days of talks in Moscow.

In a commentary, Tass described Northern Ireland as a "white colony" and said Britain had unleashed terror and ruthless repression on the population there.

"This is one of the most disgusting misrepresentations of the situation in Northern Ireland I have ever seen," Mr Rifkind said. The timing of the article reflected Kremlin anger at Mr Rifkind's insistence on raising the question of human rights during his talks.

Mr Rifkind also told the Russians that Britain rejected the inclusion of its nuclear deterrent in the current US-Soviet missile negotiations.

Mr Andropov interview, page 7

Deported Nazi escapes trial

Ludwigshafen (Reuters) - Hans Lipschitz, an ex-Nazi deported on April 14 from the United States to West Germany, will not be prosecuted for war crimes because nothing serious is known against him, the main Nazi war crimes office said here.

Herr Lipschitz, aged 63, the first suspected war criminal the United States has deported on its own initiative, served in the SS-Totenkopf (Death's Head) division, and was personally involved in persecuting the inmates at Auschwitz concentration camp, the US Justice Department said.

Onslow mends Chile links

Santiago (Reuters) - Mr Cranley Onslow, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, arrived in Chile on Tuesday night on the second stage of his fence-mending tour of four Latin American countries after the Falklands War.

He was expected to meet President Pinochet. The purpose of his visit, he said on arrival, was to maintain friendly relations.

Walesa signs

Warsaw (AFP) - Mr Lech Walesa, leader of the banned trade union Solidarity, signed a new contract at the Lenin shipyards in Gdansk and returned to work as an electrician. The contract, retroactive to August 15, 1980, replaced his original contract of 1967 which he claimed earlier was still valid.

Dingo decision

Melbourne - The federal court will give its decision tomorrow on the appeal by Mrs Lindy Chamberlain against her conviction of murdering her daughter Azaria who she says was taken away by a dingo. Her husband Michael also appealed against his conviction as an accessory.

Uphill struggle

Katmandu (Reuters) - Stomach trouble has delayed Richard and Adrian Crane, brothers aged 29 and 27, from Britain, who are running the length of the Himalayas from Darjeeling to Rawalpindi for charity. Blistered feet forced them to take a two-day rest in Katmandu on April 8.

First up

Katmandu (Reuters) - A bus driver and a technician from Austria, Arthur Haid and Stephan Krismar, sailed 22,494R Mount Ama Dablam near Everest, the first reported success of the spring season in the Nepalese Himalayas.

Late fame

New York (Reuters) - A letter from President William Henry Harrison, who died in 1841, after only a month in office and whose name has been forgotten by most Americans, fetched \$132,000 (£88,000) at an auction, a record for a letter written by a US President.

Pisa prop

Rome (AP) - The Italian Government assigned six university professors the task of coming up with a plan to prevent the leaning tower of Pisa from eventually falling over. It set aside 10,000m lire (£5m) for the job.

Correction

The Pluton missile, referred to in a report from Paris on April 22, has a range of 75 miles.

Soviet ship expelled from Oslo

Oslo (AP) - A Soviet research vessel was expelled from Norwegian territorial waters on Tuesday night after entering Oslo harbour without diplomatic clearance.

Mr Bjorn Bigset, of the Oslo police, said that the captain of the 70ft Ayu-Dag agreed to pay a fine of \$3,000 kroner (£371) before the police and a naval vessel escorted the Soviet ship out of Norwegian territorial waters.

The narrow Oslo fjord is a restricted area for all foreign vessels. To enter it they need special permission from the foreign ministry. The Ayu-Dag had twice before, in 1978 and 1981, made authorized port calls in Oslo. This time she arrived with a crew of 49 and a Norwegian pilot on board.

The Oslo newspaper *Aftenposten* reported yesterday that the Soviet captain had explained to the police that the Ayu-Dag was engaged in research projects in cooperation with the Oslo University and Det Norske Veritas, the Norwegian ships classification society.

● COPENHAGEN: Mr Hans Engell, the Danish Minister of Defence, has ordered military experts here to reassess Danish coastal security needs in the light of Tuesday's Swedish government report on alleged inroads by Soviet submarines into its territorial waters last autumn, Christopher Follett writes.

Danish coastal waters have not been entered by foreign submarines so far being too shallow, but the Swedish disclosures about mini-submarines and underwater caterpillar-tracked reconnaissance vehicles have caused a stir here. The Government now fears that Denmark may be exposed to Soviet intrusions and is considering improving its coastal surveillance system.

In protest against what it called the "unacceptable" Soviet submarine activities in Swedish waters, the ruling Danish Democratic Party has indefinitely postponed a Moscow visit by a four-man party delegation planned for next month. The delegation, which was to be headed by Mr Kjeld Olesen, the former Foreign Minister, was to have discussed nuclear missile disarmament and East-West peace initiatives with Soviet leaders at the invitation of the Soviet Union.

● MOSCOW: The Soviet Union denied Swedish claims that Soviet submarines had committed "gross violations" of Swedish territorial waters last October, AFP reports.

In the first Soviet reaction to the Swedish protest over the submarines, made on Tuesday, Tass claimed that the accusations were "totally unsubstantiated".



Downing Street meeting: Herr Richard von Weizsäcker, the Chief Burgomaster of West Berlin, being greeted yesterday by Mrs Margaret Thatcher.

Princess Anne sends plea to kidnappers

By Our Foreign Staff

Princess Anne, the president of the Save the Children Fund, called yesterday for the early release of a group of the fund's workers kidnapped by anti-government guerrillas in Ethiopia.

"Princess Anne is extremely concerned to hear that a total of seven people working for the Save the Children Fund in Ethiopia have been forcibly removed from their posts," said a statement issued by the British Embassy in Tokyo, where the Princess is on a visit.

Four Britons working for the fund, two Irish nurses, two Italian nuns, an Indian doctor and an American were rounded up last Thursday by guerrillas of the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF) which has recently stepped up its campaign against the Ethiopian Government.

The Britons are Miss Libby Grimshaw, aged 39, from Henley, a fund coordinator; Miss Clare Davies, aged 35, a nutritionist from Bedfordshire; Dr Charles Douglas, aged 28, from Cambridge; and Miss Alison Barrett, aged 25, an engineer from Cambridge.

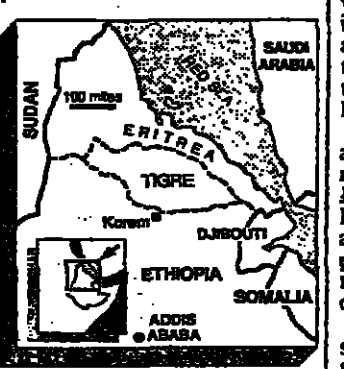
The two Irish nurses, both members of the relief group Concern, are Miss Tarina Kelly, aged 30, from Co. Louth, and Miss Anne McLoughlin, aged

23, from Co. Galway.

Mr Hugh Mackay, the fund's overseas director, is scheduled to arrive in Khartoum to meet with TPLF representatives.

A spokesman at the Ethiopian Embassy in London expressed his Government's strong condemnation "of the kidnapping. It was, he said, 'an inhuman act perpetrated by a handful of bandits in Tigray'.

The TPLF has been operating against the Ethiopian Government since the overthrow of Emperor Haile Selassie in 1974. Recently it launched several attacks on Ethiopian military units, apparently retaliating for a new offensive against its guerrillas. It claims to have beaten back a series of Ethiopian attacks.



Syrians in new Bekaa flare-up

From Katherine Dowling, Beirut

Syria claimed yesterday that its forces had opened fire for the second successive day to prevent the Israelis from setting up fortifications along the ceasefire line in the Bekaa Valley.

But Israeli military sources dismissed the Syrian claim as pure rhetoric aimed at heightening tension while Mr George Shultz, the American Secretary of State is visiting the area.

At Baath, the newspaper of the ruling Baath Party in Damascus, went further and said that the Israeli "provocations" could be a signal that Israel was preparing to launch a wide-scale attack against Syria in an attempt by Washington and Tel Aviv to achieve what they had failed to achieve through the invasion of Lebanon.

The editorial comment came a day after Syria released its first military communiqué since June which claimed that an Israeli bulldozer and an armoured personnel carrier had penetrated the buffer zone near the Salkou Hill, 13 miles west of the Syrian border.

Yesterday's communiqué said an Israeli bulldozer and two armoured personnel carriers were forced to retreat in the same area.

An Israeli spokesman in suburban Yaze, south-east of Beirut, confirmed there had been shooting near Salkou, but played down the significance of the Syrian communiqué.

Meanwhile a small bomb was discovered and defused yesterday at the American University of Beirut, the third explosive device he found at the university since the explosion at the US Embassy on April 18.

More school needed to reeducate America

From Christopher Thomas, New York

American schoolchildren may be in for a shock. Standards of education have fallen so drastically in the past 20 years that "our very future as a nation and a people" is threatened, according to an official report that recommends a series of swift measures.

The National Commission on Education Excellence says there should be seven-hour school days, a school year of 200 to 220 days, more homework, required courses for high school students, and better pay for teachers.

In almost every respect it is a devastating report. It speaks of "a rising tide of mediocrity" in education, adding that if an unfriendly foreign power had in times past attempted to impose upon America such a mediocre education performance, "we might well have viewed it as an act of war."

Farmers take to road in drive for price rises

From Ian Murray, Luxembourg

Angry French farmers have chartered coaches to invade Luxembourg today to exert pressure on EEC Agriculture Ministers to reach agreement on this year's farm price increases for the Community.

The price package should have been agreed by the beginning of the month and farmers claim they have already lost millions of pounds in income because of the snail's pace negotiations.

But the annual difficult argument over the price package has this year been complicated by the fact that the EEC is running out of money and cannot afford to pay the farmers more than an extra 4.2 per cent. This had put a ceiling on the cost of the package. The argument has therefore had to centre on technical detail, with each country trying to win marginal advantages.

Jobs debate, page 8

TWA to and through the USA

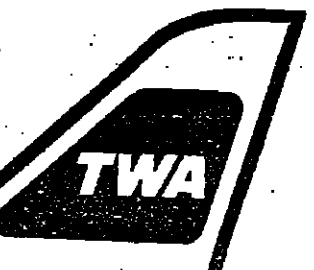
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Feuding in the White House

Clark leads hawks, Baker the doves

From Nicholas Ashford
Washington

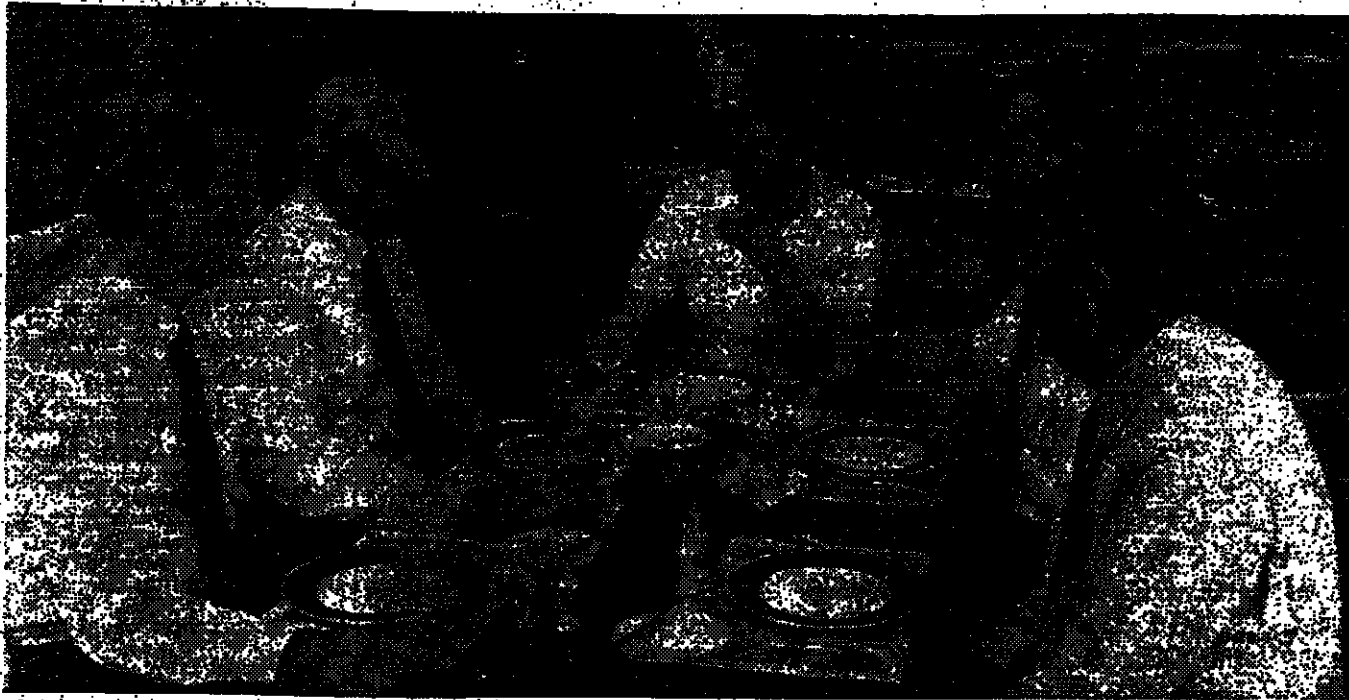
The other day Mr Michael Deaver, the Deputy White House Chief of Staff, jokingly revealed how he had managed to lose 40lb during the past year. "The secret of the Deaver diet," he said "is that you only eat on days when senior members of the White House staff are talking to each other."

Behind this joke lies a deepening rivalry between ideological and pragmatic factions among President Reagan's top advisers. So tense have relations become, that some of the principal players spend as much time leaking stories to the press as they do communicating to each other.

The two main protagonists are Mr William Clark, the President's hardline National Security Adviser, and Mr James Baker, the conciliatory White House Chief of Staff. Among Mr Clark's allies are Mr Caspar Weinberger, the Defence Secretary, Mrs Jeane Kirkpatrick, the United States representative at the United Nations, and Mr Edwin Meese, the President's counsel.

Mr Baker's main supporters are Mr Richard Darman, Presidential Assistant, and usually (but not invariably) Mr Deaver. Several members of the Cabinet frequently side with Mr Baker on particular issues. But his main source of strength is the backing he receives from Republican congressional leaders who approve of his non-combative approach when dealing with the legislative branch of government.

Buffeted between these two rival camps is Mr George Shultz, the Secretary of State, who tries where possible to avoid taking sides. For several months after his appointment



Summer days: Mr Reagan hosting an informal lunch at Camp David soon after the appointment of Mr George Shultz as Secretary of State. Left to right: Mr Baker, Mr Shultz, the President, Mr Clark and Mr Meese.

last year Mr Shultz managed to calm the troubled waters bequeathed to him by his predecessor, Mr Alexander Haig.

Now, however, he is finding himself increasingly drawn into disputes which encroach on his own sphere of interest - foreign policy.

The feuding is essentially over how the rival groups believe the President should go about accomplishing his goals between now and the 1984 presidential election.

Mr Clark believes the President should keep strictly to the platform on which he was elected in 1980, even if this often makes him appear militant and uncompromising. Mr

Baker, on the other hand, sees the need for compromise and flexibility in order to keep Congress and public opinion on the President's side - or at least to avoid more alienation than already exists.

The feuding between the two camps - so far earlier this month when the Senate budget committee, in a resounding rebuff to the President, voted for only a 5 per cent increase in defence spending instead of the 10 per cent that the President sought. This defeat, which could and should have been averted, was caused by the failure of the White House to come up with a compromise acceptable to the Senate committee.

The differences between the two factions have been most evident in the fields of defence and foreign policy. Mr Clark, who is one of the President's closest and most loyal friends, holds strong anti-communist views - and has a receptive audience in Mr Reagan. His hand can be detected in the President's recent speeches in which he described the Soviet Union as an "evil empire" and proposed the development of a space anti-missile system.

Mr Clark has also been urging the President to adopt a tougher line on East-West trade, an issue which could become a point of contention with the European allies at next month's Williamsburg summit.

Kirkpatrick, has also taken up the issue of Central America, an area with which Mr Shultz has so far failed to get to grips. Mr Clark has reminded the President - if he needs reminding - of the need to "draw the line" against the spread of Marxism.

So far Mr Reagan, who delegates a large amount of authority to his subordinates, has kept out of the battle. However, if he is to retain the collegial character of his Administration he will soon have to become involved. Otherwise he risks entering an election with an Administration that will be in almost as much disarray as President Carter's in the latter days of his stay in the White House.

Mr Clark, spurred on by Mrs

Tough talking in the Kremlin

Andropov outlines ways to break Geneva deadlock

With Dr Helmut Kohl, the West German Chancellor, expected to visit the Soviet Union in the next few months, Mr Yuri Andropov, the Soviet leader, last week gave an interview to Herr Rudolf Augstein, publisher of Der Spiegel, the West German magazine.

The following excerpts on nuclear issues are from a text provided by Novosti, the Soviet news agency.

Q: What, in your view, is the essence of the differences between the Soviet Union and the United States at the intermediate-range nuclear force talks in Geneva and do you consider a compromise possible?

Andropov: We understand the concern that the questions... that are being discussed at the talks in Geneva are not finding their solution. These talks, if one is to speak frankly, are deadlocked.

The Soviet side proposed the talks and began them with resolve to press for the reduction of the medium-range nuclear weapons of the Soviet Union and Nato countries existing in that area, for a radical mutual reduction of the level of nuclear confrontation.

The purpose of the US at the Geneva talks, as it has transpired, is to add at all costs new powerful armaments to the already existing vast nuclear arsenal of Nato. And it is only Soviet missiles that it wants to reduce. As you see, two opposite lines. I would say two fundamentally different approaches, face each other in Geneva.

For us the attainment of

agreement between contracting sides means to reach accord on questions to mutual satisfaction. But the American Administration is behaving as though the age-long history of international relations, the practice of agreements and treaties, does not exist. The recent alteration by Washington of its proposal that was falsely called "zero option" and was unacceptable to the Soviet Union from the outset does not change anything.

It is also said that the nuclear arms of France and Britain could not be counted because they purportedly have some "independent status". But have these countries ceased being members of the North Atlantic alliance?

Try to look at the situation from the viewpoint of the Soviet Union, its lawful interests. On what grounds, by what right are we to be left disarmed in face of these British and French nuclear missiles aimed



Mr Andropov: Total freeze proposed

at our country? It is clear that we cannot agree and never will agree to this...

They want us to pretend that we do not notice the more than 400 warheads on the British and French sea and land-based missiles which are aimed at the Soviet Union and other socialist countries.

The Americans, and after them also the representatives of other Nato countries, describe the British and French missiles as a force of "deterrence". I am prepared to allow that that is so. But then the question arises: Why, then, while recognizing the right of France and Britain to deterrence, they deny us the right to have our own deterrent force?

Q: The West and the East accuse each other of striving for military superiority... What should an approximate balance look like?

Andropov: ... Suffice it to recall our proposals at the (INF) Geneva talks.... At present each side in Europe has about a thousand medium range carrier vehicles of nuclear weapons, plus several thousand tactical nuclear warheads each.

Were our most far-reaching proposals accepted (incidentally, in the West they bashfully prefer to hush it up) there would have remained no types of nuclear weapons at all in the European continent, weapons intended to hit targets in Europe, both medium-range and tactical ones.

The complexity and danger of the present situation is that the arms race imposed by the West is outstripping talks.

Moscow wants space weapon ban

Moscow (Reuters) - Mr Yuri Andropov, the Soviet leader, yesterday called on the United States to agree to a ban on weapons in space, but gave a warning that unless an accord was reached soon it would be too late.

In a letter to a group of American scientists, Mr Andropov said that Moscow favoured drafting a treaty which would effectively prevent the deployment of weapons of any kind in orbit.

He accused Washington of preventing any progress towards this goal by blocking talks on a Soviet Treaty proposal put forward in 1981.

The Americans also appeared to be assigning an increasing role to the use of outer space in

its long-term military planning, Mr Andropov said.

This was an apparent reference to President Reagan's call last month for development of an orbiting missile defence system using laser guns.

Mr Andropov said: "Now a crucial moment is really coming: Either the interested states sit down at the negotiating table without delay to begin drawing up a treaty prohibiting the deployment in space of weapons of any kind, or the arms race will also go over into space."

The Andropov letter published by Tass, was in response to an appeal by a group of American scientists for both superpowers to avoid militarizing space. "I can assure you the Soviet Union will continue to

exert maximum effort to prevent the ominous plans of transferring the arms race into space from being converted into reality," the Soviet leader said.

US military officials have claimed that Moscow is at least as far advanced as Washington in the development of space war technologies.

Although the thrust of Mr Andropov's letter was to appeal for negotiations on a space weapons ban, his warning that time would soon run out was evidently meant as a warning that Moscow was ready to match any American space weapons systems.

The Soviet leader, however, concluded his letter with an appeal to all scientists to do what they could to prevent the military use of space.

Prem has second thoughts

Bangkok (Reuters) - General Tinsulanonda, the Thai Prime Minister has reconsidered his surprise resignation announced on Tuesday and is ready to accept nomination for another four-year term, reliable political sources said yesterday.

They said the former general, aged 62, reversed his decision after an appeal from Thailand's former Prime Minister, Mr Kukrit Pramoj.

General Prem apparently agreed to make himself available to head another coalition government after Mr Kukrit, leader of the Social Action Party (SAP), persuaded him that no civilian coalition could survive without him.

SAP and its main political rival, the Chart Thai (Thai Nation) Party, have almost equal support in the 324-seat House of Representatives.

The two parties have fought in the past week for the right to form a new government under the leadership of General Prem, who is regarded as the ideal compromise between Thailand's powerful army and the country's elected politicians.

General Prem, Thailand's Prime Minister since the Second World War, said yesterday he had no political ambitions and had served long enough.

Political sources said General Prem is likely to be renominated by Parliament early next

week and would favour the same coalition that formed the last Government - the SAP, Chart Thai and the moderate Democrat Party.

Chart Thai won its first battle in Parliament yesterday since the snap elections earlier this month when its candidate beat the SAP nominee to become Speaker of the lower house.

General Prem called the poll to avert a possible military coup after Parliament rejected Army-backed constitutional amendments.

Several senior officers have since stated publicly that the Army would not intervene in the forming of a new government.

Walkabout in the wet

From Granis Forbes of the PA, Christchurch

Torrential rain and storms forced the cancellation of a trotting race meeting to be attended by the Prince and Princess of Wales in Christchurch, New Zealand, yesterday.

But the royal couple decided to attend a private dinner at Addington raceway so as not to disappoint guests and well-wishers who were to have lined the track to welcome them.

It was a raw, wet day for the Prince and Princess as they made a whistle-stop tour round South Island before attending the dinner.

They went first to Dunedin,

the city farthest in the world from London, where they reopened Otago Boys' High School, which has been completely rebuilt.

After lunch at the school, the couple received a roasting reception from a large crowd as they went walkabout in the city centre. A small group of "troops out of Ireland" demonstrators were at the back of the crowd, and one of them managed to hand Prince Charles a leaflet. He glanced at the pamphlet before it was snatched away by a loyalist, who crumpled it and threw it to the ground.

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French unrest leads to opposition dream of another May 1968

From Diana Geddes, Paris

The wave of strikes, demonstrations and protests in France have prompted gleeful warnings from opposition leaders that May 1983 could develop into another May 1968. While at this stage it seems most unlikely, the extent of the discontent and general malaise in the country is clearly worrying the Government.

As farmers staged more violent protests in Brittany and thousands of students marched through the streets in Paris, shouting "Hot, hot, hot! The spring will be hot", M. Jean Poppen, the second most senior man in the Socialist Party, warned the Government that its popular support was in danger of collapsing.

"Our popular support is (already) weakening," M. Poppen said in a Socialist Party document, submitted to President Mitterrand. "The second round (of the municipal elections) in March gave us a respite, but since then the situation has got worse. The respite will very soon be over, and after that the fall (in support) is in danger of being irretrievable."

Most of the disputes have different causes and do not at present constitute a concerted attack on any particular aspect of the Government's policy. In the case of the farmers, for example, it is the EEC system of MCAs (monetary compensatory amounts) for agricultural products which are at the centre of the dispute.

The French Government, indeed, supports their call for the abolition of MCAs which have the effect of subsidizing

agricultural imports from such countries as West Germany, The Netherlands and Denmark, and of penalizing French agricultural exports to EEC countries.

During his three-day tour of the north, which ended yesterday, M. Mitterrand described the 18 per cent gap in agricultural prices between West Germany and France, due to the effect of MCAs, as intolerable, and said that, while France was willing to negotiate with its European partners on that issue, it "would not allow laws to be imposed which could ruin its farmers".

That promise has done little to end the farmer's fears or soothe their anger, and they continued yesterday to block customs posts, erect barricades across motorways, and to seize lorries carrying agricultural imports, and destroy their contents. Thousands of tons of meat, vegetables and dairy produce have been lost.

In Normandy, about a thousand farmers attacked the prefecture in Caen on Tuesday night, breaking all the windows before trying unsuccessfully to burn it down. There was a similar attack on the prefecture in Auxerre, Burgundy, earlier in the day, while in Quimper, Brittany, the home of the local prison chief was ransacked at the weekend by farmers protesting about the imprisonment of two of their colleagues.

On the medical front, no end is in sight to the one-month-old strike by university hospital junior doctors, who were recently joined by many senior doctors. The action is severely disruptive in many areas.

though emergency services are provided.

The strikers are protesting against proposed government reforms which, they fear, will block career prospects and diminish the autonomy and status of teaching hospitals.

The strikes by medical students, now in its third month, has been joined in the past week by thousands of other students throughout the country, mostly in law and economics faculties, who are worried about a variety of proposed reforms, including the introduction of a selective examination at the end of the second year at university.

In other quarters, the independent Force Ouvrière trade union organization has called out its million members for a national strike on May 18 in protest at the Government's austerity measures. It is the first such national strike to be called since the Socialists came to power two years ago.

The CGC, the white-collar workers' union federation, in which deep discontent has been building up for some time about loss of status and purchasing power, has called for a one-day national strike, in autumn.

The Socialist CFDT organization has called a two-day strike of rail workers, starting today, in support of its demand for a 35-hour week.

Technicians belonging to the Communist-led CGT succeeded in blacking out most television programmes during a 24-hour strike yesterday in protest against a fall in real pay.

The main teachers' union has called its members to stop work on May 9 in support of its demands for more jobs.

Spanish police defy Government

From Harry Debelius, Madrid

The Spanish Government braced itself yesterday for a test of authority which could rock the foundations of post-Franco democracy, as the police threatened to go on strike and the Interior Minister said they had no right to do so.

Señor Felipe Gonzalez, the Prime Minister, told journalists in Madrid on Tuesday evening: "The conflict worries me because the police corps is subject to the principle of discipline which cannot be overlooked, because what is at stake is nothing less than the citizens' safety."

Leaders of the Professional Police Union (SPP) and the Police Trade Union (USP) discussed their demands on Tuesday afternoon with Señor José Barriomuevo, the Minister of the Interior. They later said that no agreement was reached, and that the Police would go on strike after the municipal and regional elections arranged for Sunday week.

Señor Barriomuevo told a press conference a few hours later, "A police strike is not allowed, and the ministry will take appropriate measures to assure that police services remain available."

The policemen basically want a pay rise, but the key issues are also of a political character. One segment of the police forces want the Government to put an end to the practice of giving command assignments in the police forces to army officers on long-term detached duty. It even insists that officers on such assignments at present should be sent back to the Army.

Resentment within the armed forces about their diminishing power in general makes this a delicate issue for the Government.

Ban on mixed marriages in S Africa to stay

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

Mr Louis Le Grange, the South African Minister of Law and Order, has denied that the Government wants to abolish the Mixed Marriages and Immorality Acts, and has said that both measures are still being fully applied.

Only a week ago Mr P. W. Botha, the Prime Minister, raised liberal hopes by offering to have the need for both Acts examined by an all-party parliamentary select committee. The two laws prohibit marriage and sexual relations between blacks and whites.

After coming to office in September, 1978, Mr Botha said he was ready to consider any proposals for "improving" the two laws. Since then little has come of this pledge, because the Prime Minister insists there must first be unanimity among South Africa's churches on the issue.

This, in effect, has given a right of veto to the ultra-conservative Dutch Reformed Church, which is staunchly opposed to any change in the Law. All the English-speaking churches want the laws abolished, on the grounds that they are un-Christian and contrary to Scripture.

The somewhat contradictory noises emanating from the Government on the issue are to be explained by the challenge it faces next month in a series of crucial by-elections in Transvaal from the extreme right wing Conservative Party of Dr Andries Trepoort, a former Cabinet minister expelled from the ruling National Party last year.

One of the Conservative candidates in the coming by-elections seized on the Prime Minister's hint of flexibility to claim that the Government was preparing to abolish the two laws and that for the past two years the authorities had been ignoring violations of them.

The Conservatives argue that the ban on miscegenation must stay to preserve the racial identity of the white minority and to prevent it from being absorbed into an indeterminate ethnic melange, a prospect that is anathema to the true apartheid believer.

Mr Le Grange quickly weighed in to dispel any notion that the Government might have been infected by the virus of liberalism. Last year, he said, there had been 225 alleged contraventions of the Immorality Act, which had resulted in charges being laid against 182 people.

The Prohibition of Mixed Marriages Act was one of the first measures to be enacted by the Nationalists after they came to power in 1948. It prohibits marriage between "a European and a non-European" and any such unions are deemed "void and of no effect". The maximum sentence is seven years' imprisonment.

There were, in fact, few such marriages before 1948 - probably fewer than 100 a year.

The 1950 Immorality Act is based on a law passed in the 1920s forbidding extra-marital sex between whites and Africans, and extends it to cover sexual relations between whites and Coloureds and Indians.

Neutral nations try to wind up security meeting

Madrid (Reuters) - Neutral and non-aligned states protested yesterday at the lack of progress at the Madrid East-West talks, and Malta openly questioned the point of continuing the meeting which is in its third year, delegates said.

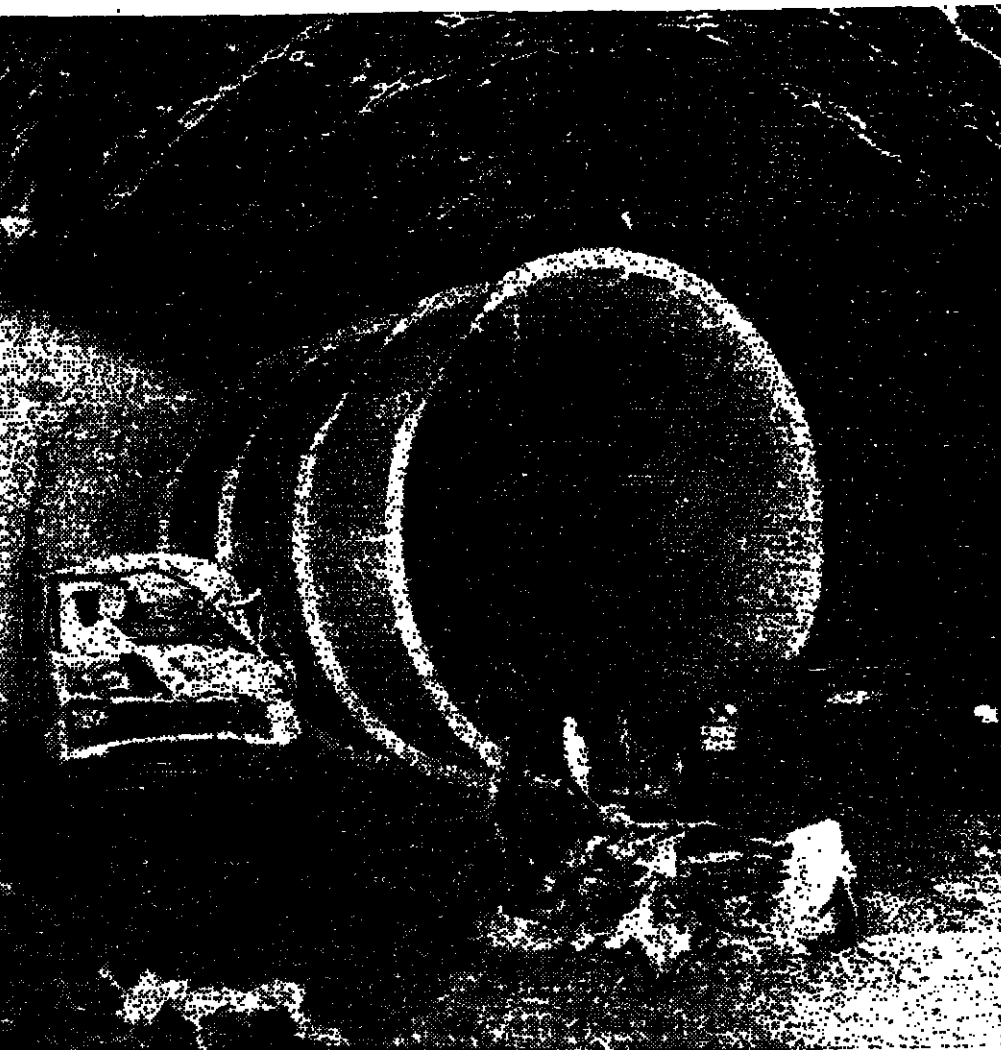
The smaller states at the 35-nation Conference on European Security and Cooperation had called a special plenary session to voice their concern.

Eight of the nine neutral and non-aligned states proposed to end the conference in a compromise concluding document, tabled in March, which softened or dropped a number of key western demands for improved human rights in the Soviet bloc.

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11 children killed in Florence tunnel

Motorway tragedy: The giant steel pipe, which swung off the back of a lorry in a tunnel near Florence and caused the deaths of 11 children.

Later another lorry crashed into a three-mile queue of cars forced to slow down by the pile-up caused by the steel pipe. Two people died in the second collision.

The double disaster occurred on the Superhighway of the Sun outside Florence on Tuesday. The giant steel pipe, weighing 28,600 lb, fell off a lorry and smashed into the side of the bus, which was travelling from Naples. Eleven children, aged between 11 and 13, on board the bus were killed and 14 others were injured.

"When I arrived, seven children were on the ground dead and two others were hurled outside the tunnel by the force of the crash," one of the rescue workers said. The bus was taking the children on a five-day holiday organized by their teachers at Lake Garda.

PARIS: The French Government has decided to ban from trunk roads and motorways all buses carrying groups of more than 15 children over the two days of heaviest traffic at the beginning of the mass exodus for the summer holidays, which this year falls on July 29 and July 30, Diana Geddes writes.

At the beginning of the summer holiday rush last year 46 children and seven adults were killed when two buses and three cars crashed near Beaune.

Machel's two pillars



President Machel of Mozambique addressing the opening of the Frelimo Party's fourth congress.

The ruling party has blamed South African aggression and Mozambique's own organizational problems for the country's poor economic performance in 1982 after several years of slow but steady growth, AFP reports.

A report, by the party's central committee, called for decentralization, local initiative and cuts in bureaucracy to help Mozambique to overcome its economic crisis.

The support for peasants and local industry were the pillars of a revised economic strategy.

Poll win makes Feinstein a star

From Ivor Davis, Los Angeles

Mrs Dianne Feinstein, the Mayor of San Francisco, is being talked of seriously as the Democratic Party's first woman vice-presidential candidate after her overwhelming victory on Tuesday night when she defeated efforts to throw her out of office.

Mrs Feinstein, aged 49, the first woman mayor of the city, won with little difficulty. The recall movement had been launched by the little-known, self-styled Communist White Panther Party, but was firmly

crushed as the mayor took 81 per cent of the vote in an election that cost taxpayers \$400,000 (£255,000).

From the moment the 51,000 absentee ballots were counted, of which she won 90 per cent, there was little doubt she would stay in office.

It is thought in San Francisco that in the long run the recall election was the best thing that could have happened to her. It gave her national prominence, it solidified her big

business support in the city and it made her a virtual certainty for reelection in November when she will be seeking another four-year term.

Next year the Democratic Party will hold its convention in San Francisco and already there is talk that Mrs Feinstein could find herself as the first woman to run on the Democratic vice-presidential ticket, though she insisted yesterday that her main goal was another big win in November and to stay in her job.

Son of Reagan's lawyer 'unfit to stand trial'

From Our Correspondent Los Angeles

Michael Miller, aged 20, the son of President Reagan's lawyer, is schizophrenic and incompetent to stand trial for the murder and rape of his mother, a Los Angeles court has been told.

The report came from Dr Blake Skorda, appointed by the court to examine Miller. Miller is accused of the murder on March 24, of his mother Margaret, aged 52, the wife of Mr Roy Miller, President Reagan's lawyer.

Dr Skorda's opinion could bolster the defence's efforts to have the young man committed for psychiatric care rather than stand trial.

Hayden and Shultz to discuss Cambodia

From David Watts, Singapore

The United States and Australia are to discuss Cambodia next month.

Mr Bill Hayden, the Australian Foreign Minister, will meet Mr George Shultz, the US Secretary of State, to discuss the Australian Labour Government's proposals for a settlement of the Cambodian conflict which would include resumption of aid to Vietnam.

The talks will be held during the meeting of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) in Paris. Mr Hayden will also discuss Cambodia with M. Claude Cheysson, the French Foreign Minister. The Australians want to play a role in resolving the Cambodian question, just as the French do. The French are also keen to resume aid to Vietnam.

On the penultimate leg of an Association of South-East Asian Nations tour to gauge the reaction to the possible resumption of Australian aid to Vietnam, Mr Hayden was left in

no doubt that Singapore would endorse nothing but emergency assistance in response to a natural disaster.

The Australian government has made no firm commitment on aid, much less defined what form it might take, but it would be in such non-strategic areas as animal husbandry, agricultural development and teaching English. Mr Hayden plans to visit Hanoi in June.

Australian aid to Vietnam was suspended with the Vietnamese invasion of Cambodia in 1979, but last year's Australian Labour Party conference passed a resolution calling for the resumption of aid to reduce Vietnam's "stifling dependence on the Soviet Union".

In the Asian capitals Mr Hayden has emphasized that any resumption of aid would be part of Australia's plan for a Cambodian settlement which would provide for a phased withdrawal of Vietnamese forces.

Greeks seek extra aid from Ten

From Mario Mediano, Athens

The Greek Government has proposed to the European Commission the consolidation of all Greek taxes and duties, imposed to protect local production from Community competition, into a single tax that would be eliminated gradually until the end of the period of grace.

This was the main demand in response to the Commission's position paper on the Greek request for preferential treatment. The Greek reply, consisting of 15 points, was delivered to M. Gaston Thorn, the Commission's president.

The text was couched in moderate terms, implying that the Greek Socialists had not asked their campaign rhetoric in favour of a pull-out from the EEC and sought the solution of their problems within the Community.

It said: "Without considerable improvement of competitiveness and without a substantial expansion of production potential, the consequences of accession on the industrial sector would mortgage the economic future of the country and lead to the increase of unemployment to unacceptable levels."

A key point, therefore, would be the need for increased financing in support of the Greek five-year plan, which the Community accepted, but the Greek side wanted to see it implemented in precisely defined draft regulations submitted to the Council of Ministers for approval as soon as possible.

Russia expecting Afghanistan victory

Moscow (Reuters) - A senior Kremlin official was quoted yesterday as saying that the Soviet Union believed the war against anti-government guerrillas in Afghanistan was entering a decisive phase.

Mr Shafar Rashidov, a candidate member of the Politburo, told a political meeting in Kabul that Moscow was confident of victory for the Soviet-backed Afghan Government. "The battle with the counter-revolution is now entering a decisive stage," he said.

Mr Rashidov, the Communist Party chief in Soviet Uzbekistan, was speaking at celebrations marking the fifth anniversary of Communist rule in Kabul. His comments were reported by Pravda.

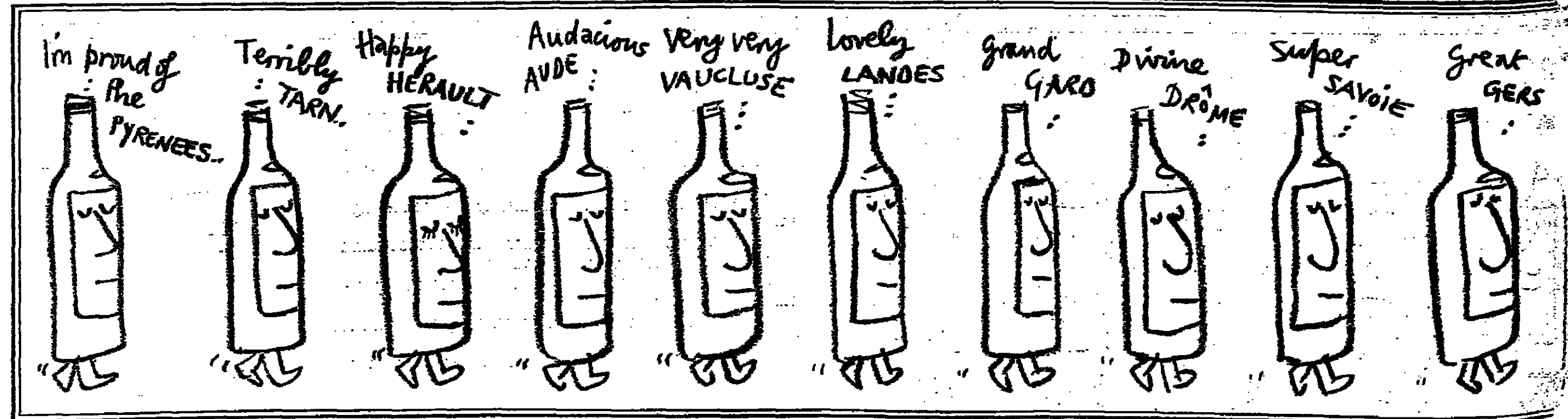
He made no direct mention of Soviet military involvement in Afghanistan.

Soviet and Afghan government forces are believed by Western military experts to be ready for a big spring offensive

against the Muslim guerrillas who control most of the Afghan countryside.

Most Western analysts believe, that, even if the campaign scores some successes, it will be years before Moscow can achieve a military victory over the rebels.

Mr Rashidov said that his predictions of imminent success were based partly in evidence of growing support for the Kabul Government of Mr Babrak Karmal.



THE ARTS

The loudest silence in jazz was broken two years ago when the great trumpeter Miles Davis returned to the stage. In London for this week's concerts he talked to Richard Williams about his recovery from ill health and the present direction of his music

On top of all the beat

"I'll answer your questions if you'll print my drawings", Miles Davis said, and half-smiled from the deep couch of his hotel room to offer for inspection a large drawing pad, its pages covered with felt-tip sketches.

Mostly of young women's faces, many with everything but the eyes and lips excluded, scored and shaded in bright, bold colours, they resembled simplifications of the sensual, fantastical paintings of Abdul Madi Kharweh which adorned the covers of Davis's popular records of the early 1970s: the ones, such as *Bitches Brew* and *Live Evil*, which took the trumpeter out of the dusty confines of the jazz market and into the rock racks, next to Carlos Santana and the Grateful Dead.

Since opportunities to listen to Miles Davis's answers roughly approximate in frequency to the appearances of Haley's Comet, the deal might have been tempting. No need, as it turned out, the obsessive sketching is not the basis of a new career for the most influential jazz musician of his era, but simply a way of killing time in aeroplanes, limousines and hotel rooms; that, and perhaps a gentle kind of therapy.

Miles Davis's health has been a hot topic since he disappeared into a premature retirement in 1975, at the age of 49. Part of this most charismatic performer's proud image derived from his widely publicized habit of keeping himself in top physical condition through daily workouts with a punch-bag in the gymnasium. Now, it was whispered, he had broken his legs in a car accident, he was suffering from a disease which was making his joints seize up, his hips were disintegrating, he had woken up one morning and found himself unable to use his right hand.

When, two years ago, he re-emerged into the public arena, he seemed to be in a frightening degree physically reduced. On stage in London he moved slowly and painfully; he appeared literally to have shrunk. The imperious carriage and the feline prowling which had contributed to his legendary presence were completely gone; he played beautifully, but mostly from a chair.

I had been requested, before meeting him in London this week, on the eve of the first of his two concerts at the Odeon, Hammersmith (the second of which takes place tonight), not to broach the subjects of sex, drugs or the extramusical aspects of "the beat". Fine by me, since I wanted to talk to him about music, but it seemed only right to inquire after his health - particularly since it was obvious, upon meeting him, that the past year had treated him more kindly. He still moved around the room with difficulty as he fetched

himself bottles of mineral water, but the brightness of his eyes and the sheen of his skin suggested an altogether fitter man. Nor was he reluctant to discuss the topics he talked freely and graciously, with dry humour and great animation, utterly dispelling the received image of surly arrogance.

All the rumours of accidents and ill health had, he said, been true. He had driven his silver Lamborghini into a highway line-divider, at a mere 30 mph, breaking both ankles; his joints had dried up; his hand had been paralyzed by a slight stroke; there had been problems with drugs.

Conventional medicine had been employed to no avail. Then his wife, the actress Cicely Tyson, had taken him to Dr Shin, an acupuncturist, whose needles did the job.

"He brought the hand back. Feel it. Press on it."

"I stayed rock steady. A couple of years ago it was like this": he bunched the fingers into a deformed shape. "Now I have acupuncture all the time. It's good for the circulation. And I swim every day."

As he once boxed? "Anything to help the wind is good for a horn player. When I first started back playing, I got out of breath all the time. Swimming is good for that. If I don't do it, everything tightens

"Me change? Of course. Having two guitar players makes me change. They don't have to breathe like a horn player does."

up. And I take the Chinese herbs that Dr Shin gives me. They build me up. And I quit smoking. "When I play I wear a truss and a rubber corset. Here": he grabbed my hand, put it to his abdomen and made me push against it. "The muscles there are important if you play from the stomach, like I do."

Then we talked about music. Was he still listening to contemporary pop, in the way that he did 15 years ago, when he vowed to put together "a better rock band than Jimi Hendrix"?

"Sure. Prince, Michael Jackson, stuff like that," he said, naming two popular young black soul singers.

Did he draw ideas from them? "It's useful. But mainly to see what they don't want to do, as always. It's nice to see someone else fall off the ladder! You can hear things that you wouldn't do yourself, without having to go through trying them out."

That kind of music seems to be

getting more electronic, more mechanical.

"You can tell. It's nice if you know how to put it with something else. I've got an Oberheim synthesizer that I'm using on stage, but I haven't read the instruction book yet." He laughed. "It would take somebody like Paul Buckmaster or Gil [Evans] or Quincy [Jones] or J. J. [Johnson], one of those writers who'd really know how to use it. Nowadays instead of going on the road with a big band you just reach and grab a button and have the sound of brass or strings, but of course you can't replace the interplay - going in and out of those swells and lows. What you miss, too, is the unevenness of tone that gives it a thrill. You might have five trumpet players, each with a different sound and attack, who make the sound you want."

The band with which he arrived in London this week contains two young guitarists, symbols of this continuing engagement with the surface, if not the modes, of rock.

"I've always liked the sound of the guitar. And of the sitar. I like all the strings, except the violin. It's too high-pitched for me. I can't hear that high. When I first started playing, it was low - middle to low register. I couldn't hear above that. Just lately, though, I've been able to hear up to octavissimo F, G, A sometimes."

What did he mean by "hear"? That anything pitched in the upper register did not make a pleasurable sound to him?

"Uh huh."

Davis has always been famous for his ability to draw into his band young unknowns who would go on to become stars. John Coltrane, Bill Evans, Wayne Shorter, Herbie Hancock, Chick Corea, John McLaughlin and Keith Jarrett are just a few examples. What did he look for when scouting new talent?

"You have to see, first, if someone's open-minded. Then you figure out how they'll work with the rhythm section. They've got to feed the rhythm section just as much as the rhythm section feeds them. Denny Best, the drummer, used to say to me: 'Don't play too far behind the beat because you'll work me too hard'. It's like stepping on your dancing partner's feet. Understand? I can't stand having a drummer drop the tempo. Drives me nuts."

Did he subscribe to the conventional wisdom among critics that, although he has chosen to subject the surface of his music and the methods of its construction to marked changes - many of them deeply controversial - over more than three decades, the style of his own playing has remained more or less constant?

"Me change? Of course. Having



"I never heard anybody sound like me. Or like Dizzy. I've heard them copy the approach..."

is worth preserving, along with its traditions, in the modern world?

"There's a place for it. It shouldn't be lost. There was a guy, as I think about it, when I came to Paris, or maybe it was London, in 1949, who played just like Coleman Hawkins. That shouldn't be lost. Lester Young, Dexter Gordon - those styles shouldn't be lost. But I can't do that."

Along with Armstrong, Parker, Young and Gillespie, Davis has been among the most closely imitated of jazz musicians. Throughout the 1950s and 1960s, whenever he sneezed, the jazz world seemed necessary to catch a cold just to stay in fashion. How had it felt, imprisoned in a hall of mirrors, constantly surrounded by reflections of himself? Had it presented him with the psychological difficulties encountered, for example, by the sensitive Lester Young?

"I never heard anybody sound like me. Or like Dizzy. I've heard them copy the approach, but it never made me feel one way or the other. As a matter of fact, I like it. I like the tone they try to get."

"When I was a student at Juilliard, about 1948, a guy tried to make fun of me. He was with the Metropolitan Opera orchestra, and he tried to make me play 'Body and Soul' so that he could laugh at my tone. What he was really doing was calling me 'Nigger', putting down the jazzy tone. Now they all have that tone, and if you play like Harry James you can't get a job."

And then, mischievously, he added: "White people are so prejudiced that they make the trumpets on the Oberheim sound white. Imagine that. A prejudiced synthesizer! Ain't that something?"

Is it true, I asked, that he and his great friend Gil Evans, who arranged the enormously successful albums *Porgy and Bess* and *Sketches of Spain* for him in the 1950s, are planning a new project together?

"I don't know why everybody always asks me that."

Because they hope that it's true. "Yeah, I know. A good-natured sigh. 'Gil still does a lot of things for me. He comes up with bass patterns, stuff like that. We just click together. We might do something, we might not.'"

As the photographer moved in, Davis clamped on a pair of miniature headphones, through which he listened to a cassette of the previous night's concert in Brussels. Clicking occasionally at what he heard, he paused and rose for an amiable farewell.

"You coming to the concert?" Of course. "Bring your best girl." None less, I told him, would do.

Television 'Cultural' riches

In *Inside China* (Granada) the males seem to smoke continually, and their anxious puffing on somewhat slender cigarettes did not suggest any real enthusiasm for the Great Tasks ahead of them; this impression was confirmed by the sight of Chinese teenagers letting off the traditional firecrackers in a bored and dispirited fashion. No doubt they were dreaming of Yamaha motorbikes and punk music, although I suspect that they would be too nervous to say so.

It was certainly not the impression which last night's programme (the first of three) wanted to convey. The emphasis, instead, was resolutely upbeat. There were scenes of prosperous Chinese families celebrating a wedding, and the by now familiar spectacle of men and women bicycling cheerfully to work. The principal spokeswoman was a Mrs Ding, who spoke of the unhappy situation in China before "liberation" and of the excesses during the Cultural Revolution, despite this unrivalled capacity among the Chinese for interminable warfare and murderous purges, she seemed surprisingly cheerful about the contemporary situation. But Mrs Ding also happened to be a leader of the commune and a member of the Communist Party. Her card was marked.

It seemed to be taken for granted, not only by the "official" peasants but also by the film-makers themselves, that "liberation" was a good thing - even if it meant that hundreds of millions of people ended up wearing blue suits - and that everything was getting even better.

Living with 18,000 people on a commune does, after all, sound like hell on earth. And, if that seems to be merely a bourgeois prejudice, it is one which the Chinese themselves are likely to embrace. The new emphasis, last night's programme suggested, is on "material incentive and individual effort". "In 1980 we bought a television set and we enriched our cultural life," Mrs Ding's husband explained. "Even if we allow for the element of 'newspaper' here, Chinese television must surely be unique."

Peter Ackroyd

Edinburgh Viennese

This year's Edinburgh Festival, from August 21 to September 10, includes performances by three opera companies (Hamburg, St. Louis and Scottish), six theatre companies (including the Haifa Municipal) and eight orchestras (including the Concertgebouw, Czech Philharmonic, Philharmonia, LSO and LPO).

The underlying theme of the festival is *Vienna 1900*, which will be reflected in a major exhibition in the National Museum of Antiquities of Scotland. Concert programmes include music by Mahler, Wolf, Bruckner, Schoenberg (*Gurre-Lieder*), with the Scottish National Orchestra and Edinburgh Festival Chorus, Berg, Webern and Zemlin. The last of these will also be represented by two one-act operas based on stories by Oscar Wilde, *A Florentine Tragedy* and *The Birthday of the Infanta*, given by the Hamburg company, which additionally presents *Die Zauberflöte* in a production by the painter Achim Freyer. St. Louis brings Delius's *Fennimore and Gerda* and Stephen Paulus's *The Postman Always Rings Twice*; Scottish Opera (in a co-production with Geneva) gives *Death in Venice*.

Three plays relevant to the Viennese theme will be presented: Hugo von Hofmannsthal's libretto for *Rosencavalier* in the form the author originally intended, Karl Kraus's epic *The Last Days of Mankind* and, by the Haifa company, Yehoshua Sobol's *The Soul of a Jew*. Ballet Rambert make their first appearance at the festival, including world premieres of works by Glen Tetley and Robert North.

Dance

Sankai Juku Sadler's Wells

The most startling and memorable moment in the new show by the Japanese Sankai Juku company at Sadler's Wells is the sudden, simultaneous falling of four spars from the darkness above the stage into its faintly lit corners. The effect of the thud and the sight of them standing where nothing was before is shocking, to the spectator and to the lone figure in a small patch of light, centre-stage.

The vivid use of stage properties and lighting is arguably the group's greatest strength. Two huge rings, first seen lying on stage, lift and revolve, the men manipulate them with soft movements of spears. Plastic screens impose a pattern on a figure seen behind them, or swing round and reflect images. Pictorially it is most striking (and Hiroimichi Takeyama's disposition of the lighting in various areas and different volumes is masterly), just as is the sculptural arrangement of the five nearly nude male bodies.

On the other hand, that visual emphasis implies a certain lack of kinetic quality. The Buto style (a modern invention) is less slow than other Japanese theatrical forms,

but it is still long-winded, and the controlled use of tiny movements, especially by the hands, cannot hide the fact that, when the men attempt to suggest mirror-images, their coordination is poor.

Nor is the theme made clear, at least to Western eyes. The programme tells us that *Jomon Shō*, the title of this piece, means "Homage to Pre-history", but only the scene of four figures, wriggling across the floor in sacks with primitive fish-skeletons attached to them, suggested a recognizable stage in the evolutionary process. At one point I thought I saw human-kind trying to stand upright, but the synopsis assures me that the episode in question means "sickness is incurable".

A good many elements in *Jomon Shō* recur from last year's presentation. *Kinkon Shonan*: a fact emphasized by the opening, in which four of the men enter strung by their feet from the upper reaches of the stage - the trick that ended the previous show. Fair enough to repeat images (painters do it all the time), but how are we supposed to put a different dramatic meaning on them, as seems intended? If *Jomon Shō* is an advance, it is by elimination; even less happens in its 75 minutes. The house looked thin, but many people cheered.

John Percival



Resonant and valpine: Jonathan Hyde, Helen Mirren

surrounding characters so sketchily drawn, much of the fun seems to be happening in the far distance.

As the work of Barry Kyle, the production lacks the focus and sense of particular character he brought to reclaiming *The Maid's Tragedy*. Chris Dyer supplies a composite London set, complete with giant wooden effigies and a set of cog-wheels representing Tudor capitalism that finally start turning when you have given up hope. The effect is one of vertical tourism, especially when the crowds of London poor march menacingly into Sir Alexander's front room, with the obligatory legless cripple in the lead.

Irving Wardle

Theatre

Middleton's case unproved

The Roaring Girl Barbican

This production marks a welcome break in the custom of treating the Jacobean playwrights as poor relations, to be occasionally entertained in the austere little studios of our great houses while Shakespeare or some other big name is enjoying full hospitality upstairs.

It also marks another attempt in the long-running campaign for Thomas Middleton, begun back in the 1960s with the RSC (studio) production of *Women Beware Women*. Since then, the stage has succeeded in confirming Eliot's high opinion of Middleton as a tragic dramatist; Middleton the comedian remains out in the cold.

The Roaring Girl is one of Middleton's collaborative pieces, written with Dekker and capitalizing on a popular type of the time. Roarers, from Ancient Pistol and Jonson's Kastril to the roaring academy in *A Fair Quarrel*, were the much-riduled skinheads of their time. But in this case the sympathy is entirely on the roarer's side.

Based in part on the under-world figure of Mary Frith - the first woman to smoke in public and wear breeches and a sword

(and still very much alive when the play first appeared) - *The Roaring Girl* implants this direct, courageous rebel in the midst of a set of conventional marital and financial intrigues and shows her winning every ethical battle as well as outwitting the men.

Sub-plots proliferate like groundweed as the gallants buzz around St Paul's Walk soliciting tradesmen's wives, spreading home-breaking gossip about their husbands and planning excursions to the "vile den of vice, Brentford". The most repellent of them, Laxton (who gets a characteristically resonant and valpine performance from Jonathan Hyde), is extracting money from a doting apothecary's wife to spend on his other women. But, if there is a central plot, it is young Sebastian's plan to win over his money-mad father to consenting to a modestly genteel match by trumpeting his intention of marrying the scandalously unacceptable Moll Cutpurse.

Old Alexander mobilizes everything in his coffers to frustrate this ruinous possibility; engaging another roarer, Trapdoor, to lead Moll into trouble, leaving money and jewels around for her to steal,

but all to no purpose against her impregnable honesty.

Eliot considered Moll a pattern of "free and noble womanhood"; but the authors gave her no reason for being anything else. They present her as a girl who knows all about crime without ever engaging in it (where does her money come from?), and who can get on quite happily without sex. She says she has no humour to marry: "She that hath wit and spirit may scorn to be beholden to her body for meat."

This certainly gives her an edge over the rest of the company, who are up to their necks in all these temptations; but it does not release her as the great comic character that has been claimed.

As Helen Mirren plays her, fetchingly putting down the assembled male talent in a Jacobean jump suit, she has little more dramatic substance than a principal boy. She certainly radiates mirth: whipping off her cap to challenge the unspeakable Laxton to a duel just as he is preparing to abduct her to Brentford, and masterminding the prison-break so as to haul up wicked Sergeant Curdax in a net for a good ducking. But, as her triumphs are so inevitable and the

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Dear Diary, another fascinating day ...

MODERN TIMES

A sideways look at the British way of life

day" or, at best, "severe headache after reading the latest instalment of Hitler's diaries".

Let us hope diarists are not a dying breed, not just because they provide a delicate collation of the intimacies of life, the jealousies and the hubris of the world, which have proved invaluable to historians and a delight to publishers, but also because they are full of such interesting trivia.

What history of this century's politics could be called complete which ignored Chips Channon's diary or Harold Nicolson's daily jottings or which overlooked Richard Crossman's unforgettable description of Sir Harold Wilson "tubby in a yellow shirt, blue trousers and pale blue shoes" collapsing "through the seat of his deckchair at Barbara Castle's champagne and clypeo silver wedding party"? What history of our time could really dismiss Evelyn Waugh's precise description of Randolph Churchill: "it was a typical triumph of modern science to find the only part of Randolph that was not malignant and remove it"?

The diary is not entirely dead. Barbara Castle recorded on the night of Mrs Thatcher's election as leader of the Tory Party: "She is so clearly the best man among them" - a phrase which has haunted the Prime Minister ever since. And Cecil King wrote that Willie Whitelaw viewed her as "able and good in the House, but in her dealings with people she is apt to lecture and bulldoze her way when more conciliatory methods would be more successful."

Although she has never officially confirmed it, some suspect that the Prime Minister herself is keeping a diary. The statistics show that far more women than men buy them and keep them up to date as a record of their lives. But she may be the only member of the present Cabinet who is doing so. Even a previous member, Norman St John Stevas, has been denying doing it.

Perhaps writing a diary is too much of a strain. A. J. P. Taylor once wondered whether "Samuel Pepys did not sometimes groan with dismay at the thought that he must seduce yet another serving maid in order to provide material for the day's entry." But their value as an intimate record is unsurpassed. Captain Bligh's diaries, for example, covered 107 damp pages and contained the names of the mutineers, a rough chart and a prayer. John Wesley's were written in a special code of dots and dashes that has only recently been cracked. President Truman confessed to his diary his fears about the atomic bomb: "We have discovered the most terrible bomb in the history of the world. It may be the fire destruction prophesied in the Euphrates Valley era, after Noah and his famous Ark."

A diary is an obligation but also a pleasure. Lady Antonia Fraser writes something in hers every day, although, like Mrs Mary Whitehouse, who used to write hers before breakfast, she has apparently not got publication in mind. Mrs Whitehouse intends to leave hers to her children, "with the strict instructions that they wait until everyone is dead." Lady Antonia has said: "I make sure I write nothing which might be embarrassing. I'll probably burn them."

Queen Victoria was a conscientious diarist (her censored diary was published and became a best seller) as is the Queen herself - although hers is locked away when she's not using it. But, typically, the Prince of Wales does not keep one because he dislikes the paperwork. In any case the royal archives rather than a Sunday newspaper are the inevitable resting place for a royal diary.

It is the private and personal nature of a diary during an author's life that makes it so compelling. Arnold Wesker explained it some years ago. "Perhaps it's because there is no one you can tell certain things to - people nearly always end up abusing confidences - or you've got a bad memory or you surprise or despise yourself and you've got to say it somewhere."

Perhaps some people see writing a diary today as almost too gross an act of conceit, because so many are published so quickly, but if they were left until after their death no one could deny their fascination. It is a revelation that publishers, with an eye to their bank balance, have never disregarded. The success of *The Country Diary of an Edwardian Lady* pays tribute to that and even Dr Goebbels's posthumous diaries were a substantial success.

Sadly, imminent publication seems to have become the principal reason for those who keep a diary to persevere with the task. Private recollection has been replaced by public curiosity. The lofty definition of *Encyclopaedia Britannica* that the work was "an aid to memory or reflection and without intention of being published during the author's lifetime" has disappeared, although John Evelyn, who kept his diary for 70 years, was not published until 100 years after his death. Neither was Jonathan Swift's journal nor Fanny Burney's recollection.

The diarist can still be the deflator of affluence and the chronicler of the unexpected and illuminating trivia of our times, but perhaps, to be on the safe side, he should write it in front of an historian - and never, never send it by air mail.

Geoffrey Wansell

Whatever the Führer was really doing in his bunker at two o'clock each morning may still be a matter of debate but one thing seems clear: keeping a diary is in danger of becoming a dying art. Fewer people than ever are committing their private reflections to a small leather-bound volume at the end of the day. Even though every third person in Britain has a diary and 20 million were sold last year, most entries now seem to be restricted to "another wet day" or, at best, "severe headache after reading the latest instalment of Hitler's diaries".



SCHOOLGIRL/Gabrielle Young
Twelve-year-old schoolgirl

"It's called a Daeg Book, an American diary; I got it at Christmas from my Nan. It's about three quarters the size of the Penguin paperback. I write in it every day. Just before I get into bed - I should say bunk really. I kneel on the floor and lean on the mattress of my bunk. I write with a ballpoint and it tends to be not always very tidy. Sometimes I don't like writing it too much - I do it quickly to get it over with, when I can't think of things or I'm tired. Sometimes it's just short sentences - 'read a good book'; other times when I've a lot to say I fill up the whole page. If I've had an argument with someone at school I might put that in - or if I get a letter from one of my pen friends, I'll mention that (I have fifteen!) I've shown it to my friend and I've read hers - when she came to stay the night. My parents have said they don't want to read it. I like that. I want them to respect it, not look when I don't know about it, and they won't. I've started it and I want to keep it up. I've only missed two nights - one when I was tired I forgot and once when I was away and had forgotten to take it. I want to just everything down on paper, properly - to start and finish well. I hope I'll keep it up... I'd like to keep it for my children to read."



FICTION/Sue Townsend
Author of *The Secret Diary of Adrian Mole*

"As a child - when I was about 11 or 12 - I kept a diary for a few weeks. It was found and I was punished, because it told the truth. I'd never kept a diary nor except in a bank vault. The truth is not palatable. I found Adrian Mole very easy to write - I remembered my own adolescence and it's not that different whether it's a girl or a boy and I've two teenage sons of my own and am always surrounded by adolescents. I've always had a lot of sympathy for children and teenagers. I wanted the diary to remind adults that there are these little sensitive creatures underneath the punky hairdos. I just found Adrian Mole's voice - once you've found it it's difficult to forget, almost a monologue. Yes of course there's a lot of me in the diary - the entry might depend on what had been happening to me that day. I wrote it in black felt broad tipped pen in block capitals on A4 lined paper, with a margin. That's the only way I can write. It took five or six months. Yes, boys of a similar age do seem to like it. I was at a book signing, which I don't like doing, and there was a line of 14-year-old schoolboys queuing and blushing. They were reading the diary at school and were now 'doing a project' and keeping their own diaries."



MULTI-MEDIA/Joan Bakewell
writer, broadcaster and television presenter

"I write intermittently, about six times a year perhaps - when there is a significant event in my life or some sort of change I want to record. I write longhand in a ruled book. When I travel I always keep a diary at the end of the day or the beginning of the next. I write about the place and the little things that happen that you'd otherwise forget quickly and I sometimes make my family tell me what they remember, to prompt me really. I write notes to remind me of memories, to bring to life the high and low points of my life, on impulse - a new job, a new opportunity, to mark a celebration of some kind. No one else sees them, they never bother to inquire. They just assume they are private. If anyone did read them, my first reaction would be 'what a nerve', and I imagine they'd be a little surprised, think 'I didn't know that about her'. If I think of the future at all it would be more for the grandchildren - the children are too close somehow and would say 'she got it wrong'. Not 'she tells all about her life' but as a kind of record for them I suppose. I did keep a diary of one particular event, the Booker Prize of '81 and all that preceded that! That's the real truth, a lot of information there - all those embattled egos! And I keep a kind of diary on tape - the Bakewell Tapes."



DIPLOMATIC/Parviz Radji
Former Iranian ambassador

"At the beginning I was not aware of their potential significance. I was merely keeping a record of the activities of a diplomat accredited to London. As events unfolded and became more dramatic I had the feeling that something bigger was afoot. I developed a conscience and kept a record of cables sent and received. I can't put my finger on the moment when I knew just how important the diary was. When I started to write I had at the back of my mind that I would return to Iran but as the clouds darkened I realized that I may not be able to. It was this that brought about the breach of discipline. I would fill in my day by scribbling notes in green ballpen whenever I felt like it, without allowing too great a lapse of time between events. Had I been surrounded by a family, wife, friends, maybe I wouldn't have spoken - but I never had the courage to take the matrimonial jump, my brother was in Tehran and there was no one with whom to let down my hair, share the accumulated burdens of the day. It was a kind of catharsis to keep the diary, compulsive writing. Do I regret it? No, in a sense I'm glad. One's friends were constantly telling one there was nothing more pompous than an ambassador's diary. Perhaps I was a little too honest."



AIDE-MEMOIRE/Daphne Rae
Wife of the Head Master of Westminster

"I keep a day-to-day diary for appointments. Because of my strange memory it is also useful for triggering off memories of particular events. John has a school diary for day to day matters and his own private diary - I think he writes more than I do! Until you suggested it I wouldn't have called some of the other writings a diary, but I suppose they are. I write things that I want to remember. I was in Brazil recently with my daughter and I wrote down all my impressions before I left, and I've just come back from Texas - John and I were at Baylor University and were terribly impressed by the students; I loved America though I hadn't wanted to go. I wrote about that too. I write at night, either until 2 or 3am, or if I've been tired and have gone to bed I might wake up at 3am and write then. Because of my dyslexia I can't cope with writing if people are coming in or out or even read when music is being played. I write longhand, on a board (there's one upstairs and one downstairs) on the wall of which there's a piece of string, a pencil and rubber - I always write in pencil - and type during the day. Basically I just write about things that interest me... writing a diary every day for the sake of it would bore me immensely."



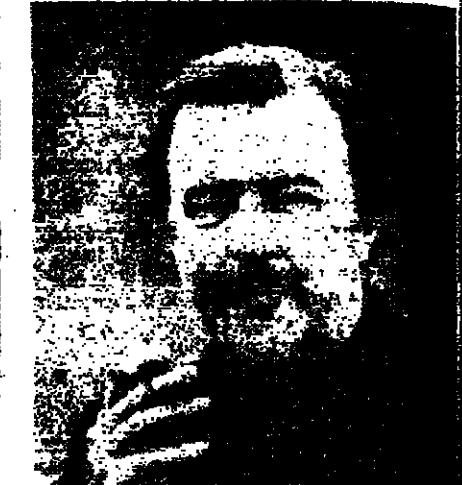
PRO-AM/Lucretia Stewart
Journalist on *The Standard*

"I've kept them for 15 years - they used to be written in leather-bound note books and those Florentine marbled notebooks, now they're in exercise books. Keeping a diary takes a lot of time. If one starts a page and is interrupted one never goes back and finishes it; that isn't playing by the rules. They're more or less entirely devoted to my love life and have been always, except that when I was at school I was in love with a girl, the current one is about the man in my life at the moment. The only people to have read them are a schoolfriend who read the ones about school - and a boy friend of mine has read them all, though he hasn't been allowed to read it for nearly a year: we were very close and we are less so now. I write longhand which is frightfully irritating. I'd prefer to type but again that would be breaking the rules and then one would be shaping, editing it. You cannot lie to it: for example you were shown up or humiliated in a situation you can't twist it and say 'of course, I didn't really like him'. They're all kept on a shelf behind my bed. I'd be absolutely horrified if anyone to whom I hadn't given permission read them. Someone once did and I was very angry. You have to be very careful about who knows how vulnerable you are..."



POLITICAL/Barbara Castle
MEP for Greater Manchester North

"I didn't keep diaries as a child but I've kept them on and off for years. You have to be very strongly motivated if you have as busy a life as I have - an intense political interest. Even then the sheer pressure of time meant there were gaps sometimes. I used to jot down short-hand notes about turns of speech, particular attitudes, events of any importance, either at the moment they happened or immediately afterwards - or if it was terribly dramatic, late the same night when we had a very small majority we were sometimes kept very late in the House. I could sit and type up on my little typewriter - I'm a rapid typer on three fingers - then I'd read it through and make little corrections at the weekend. Keeping the diaries meant sacrificing a lot of leisure and sleep. I always record faithfully - compliments as well as criticisms. For instance I was always highly critical of Jim Callaghan, but I might write 'Jim was absolutely brilliant in the House this afternoon'. Ted read them and he would sometimes say 'you can't say that'. I'd say, 'I did say that so I've got to put it in'. The 74-76 diaries were sometimes kept very late in the night, as I remember: it took the courage of an ox to face people at the Labour Party Conference, but for people like David Owen and Shirley Williams."



REMOTE CONTROL/John Goodwin
Editor of the diaries of Peter Hall (above)

"It was all dictated into a tape every morning as regularly as brushing one's teeth, and typed up afterwards. He started them in the spring of '72 - only to form thoughts, clear his mind, it had no interest in them being published. They span from just after he was appointed to succeed Olivier as Director of the National in 1980, 'the end of the beginning of the new building'. After the tapes were typed they were well over 1,200,000 words. He told me about them three years ago. I read them and suggested they should be published while still warm - I don't think stuff should gather dust in drawers do you? ... I think the tapes really were a kind of therapy - very candid, sort of stream of consciousness stuff. They were a kind of thought focuser, written to relieve his feelings and record his doubts. He might just have had it in mind that they might be the basis of a book some day - Jonathan Cape approached him years ago I know - but that wasn't really the point of them. I'm the only person who has read it all through: he certainly hasn't."

Interviews by
Judy Frothingham

FLAVIA CORKSCREWS GOOD FOOD GUIDE

FLAVIA FLIES TO SCOTLAND TO AUTHENTICATE GAMBEL'S PERSONAL SHORTBREAD, FOUND IN A TARTAN TIN, IN A HAYLOFT IN EAST KILBRIDE...

It may throw light on the 100% beef bunker-burgers of the Third Reich!

ONLY TO FIND THAT PROF. CLEVER-PROBER HAS GOT THERE FIRST, AND HAS ABSENT-MINDEDLY EATEN IT.

Was it the authentic Goebbels Shortbread?

Well, the extreme shortness of it made me think so. Had it been any longer there would have been a possibility of faking...

Sorry! Humming and hawing makes me so hungry!

It is crumbs like these, Flavia, that make history live!

Exactly! Very experts have confirmed this is the Goebbels tartan!

It says on the lid 'Best before 28-5-83'.

and which sustain historians...

Yet paradoxically Goebbels often declared his distaste for shortbread!

Exactly! Very experts have confirmed this is the Goebbels tartan!

It is crumbs like these, Flavia, that make history live!

There's an asset floating in my tea

VIOROVER... Miles Kingston

Thieves who spent three hours breaking into an iron safe at a company near Bristol found only some tea bags and sugar." - *The Times Monday*.

Chairman: I think you all know why I've called this meeting.

Board: We certainly do, sir.

Chairman: Anyone not know why I've called this meeting?

Simpson: Yes, sir. I don't know why, sir.

Chairman: It's about the safe, Simpson. You've heard about the safe?

Simpson: Yes, sir. But it's only a few tea bags and some sugar. I don't see why we need a board meeting to replace a few tea bags.

Chairman: God give me strength, Simpson. Let me explain it to you. When a safe is broken open and the thieves make off with tea and sugar, the question the firm has to ask itself is not, 'Shall we replace the tea and sugar?' What is the question, Simpson?

Simpson: Ummm... Why wasn't there any milk in the safe, sir?

Chairman: No, Simpson. The question is: *Where has the money gone?*

Managing Director: Could you perhaps explain the situation for us all, Chairman?

Chairman: Certainly. Listen carefully, Simpson. Two days ago, there was £30,000 in that safe, but no tea and no sugar. When the thieves were caught, they had tea and sugar on them but no money, and they had no time to dispose of the money. Therefore the money had disappeared before the thieves arrived. Only people in this room have access to that safe:

Berry, could you bring the tea caddy in, please? No, I do not want a cup of tea! Just bring the caddy in, nice and gently.

Managing Director: I think it's only fair to say that without Simpson's prompt action, we would be £30,000 poorer.

Miss Berry (entering): Here's the caddy, sir. The money's quite safe in there, sir. I've been keeping an eye on it. (Leaves)

Managing Director: So I'd like to propose a vote of thanks to Simpson.

Chairman: Seconded. And I'd like to propose he is then first.

Simpson: Seconded. I mean, look here, sir.

Chairman: Let me make a note of that. Why are there never any blasted pencils when you need one?

Simpson: Ah, Well, sir, do you remember the other day you said that people got through stationery at a scandalous rate? And that somebody ought to look away the pencils?

Chairman: All right, Simpson. Just tell us where you put the pencils.

Simpson: Well, sir, you know the very big safe where we normally keep the secret designs? Well, sir...

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 48)

ACROSS:

- Breaks open (6)
- Mouth cleft (6)
- Illegal fire force (1,1,1)
- Floor pattern (6)
- Gloomy (6)
- Borneo tribesman (4)
- Military building (8)
- Wandering (6)
- Grand march (6)
- Pasta (3)
- Dancing shoe (4)
- Dexterous (6)
- Hurry (6)
- Pulse (3)
- Energy converter (6)
- Sickness inducer (6)

DOWN:

- Spacious (5)
- Darts score (7)
- Treatment room (7)
- Detection method (5)
- SOLUTION TO No 47

ACROSS: 1 Trends 4 Cash 8 Oratorio 9 Overturn 12 Apt 15 Renter 16 Denver 17 Pod 19 Yeomanry 24 Borden 25 Para 26 Pencil 27 Rev 28

DOWN: 2 Privileged 3 Shoot 4 Chain 5 Store 6 Amity 10 Rusty 13 Earn 14 Crop 18 Odour 20 Enail 21 Mic 22

مکتبہ من راولپنڈی

BOOKS

Fiction and poetry: Iris Murdoch, George Barker, William Trevor, Benjamin Tammuz, historical novels, crime

In Murdoch territory

The Philosopher's Pupil

By Iris Murdoch

(Chatto & Windus, £7.95)

This is Iris Murdoch's twenty-first novel; each one has contained a tiny but elaborate community so that now, after almost thirty years, she has created a small country of the imagination - Murdoch Sound, and island perhaps. It is inhabited by a highly intelligent but also highly superstitious race who honour artists and magicians, and who engage in long ritual debates. They believe that in the pattern of the stars they may discern their destiny, although the meaning of that pattern is endlessly discussed. Sometimes, in fact, the discussion ends in violence.

The *Philosopher's Pupil* is set in the spa town of Ennistone, within commuting distance of London. Ennistone seems in the past to have been associated with primitive or unholiness; there is a druidic circle above which spaceships have been seen, and the waters of the town are reputed to have aphrodisiac properties - the Ennistonians themselves occasionally become the victims of "moral disorder" and "irrational behaviour". The local priest is considered by his bishop to be some kind of "shaman" and the eponymous philosopher, John Robert Rozanov, is regarded by the locals as a magician.

Or, perhaps, they would like him to be one: magic redeems people from the ordinary middle of their lives and the novel begins with an account of a terrible middle. George McCaffrey, once the philosopher's pupil, is engaged in a violent argument with his wife Stella. "Our life together," he says, "is a madhouse" - one voice in the vast echo chamber of disorder, which Miss Murdoch creates. When Stella disappears, most Ennistonians assume that George has murdered her. Certainly he thinks of himself as "Caliban" to the philosopher's Prospero - an unrepentant and unholiness figure who seeks reassurance from Rozanov which Rozanov will not give.

They are the poles of the narrative: two powerful men who use their power to others hurt, and who become the victims of intrigues and disasters. The philosopher is looking for "truth" but, in despair of finding it, becomes involved in the confused and dangerous world of which his pupil is an emblem. "There isn't any deep structure in the world. At the bottom, which isn't very far down, it's all rubble, jumble." The only good or happy characters in this novel are children or animals - the simplicity of innocence or instinct is the closest anyone can get, in fact, to the simplicity of absolute truth for which the philosopher is searching. But

one, we have behind, and the other, we cannot attain: in between lies the middle and chaos from which we turn to magic religion for relief. "Salvation itself" was magic: total redemption by cosmic act of the whole visible world."

Miss Murdoch's writing is continually interesting because it works on many levels at once and has a range which few other contemporary novelists possess. Passages of moral reflection are followed by demotic dialogue or by historical narrative, and long chapters of apparently realistic description can culminate in an expressly allegorical scene. She can create chaos and then allow it to disperse into a formal and laud pattern.

The *Philosopher's Pupil* is, in that sense, a moral fable in which the observable world is only one reality among others. Ennistone is a solidly real town - with its churches and canals and factories - but it is also an unreal place, built literally upon water. Her characters are composed in a naturalistic manner but they can become the vehicles for magical energy. And they can become devils also, fallen into the pit of madness or desperation. It is altogether a quirky and precarious world, which remains credible only because of Miss Murdoch's extraordinary intellectual control of her material.

Peter Ackroyd

Minotaur

By Benjamin Tammuz

Translated by Kim Parfitt & Mildred Bayley

(Enigma Books, £7.95)

The Crying Heart Tattoo

By David Martin

(Enigma Books, £7.95)

A secret agent meets an unusually beautiful girl on a bus in a foreign city. They do not speak but she is the woman of whom he has always dreamed. Using the wiles of his vocation (for in his case it is precisely that) he finds out who she is and begins a courtship by letter. Fascinated by this stranger whom she has never, knowingly, seen, the girl replies sometimes to a post-office box, at others hoarding her answers in a private collection. Their shared obsession grows over the years, encompassing in its labyrinthine fantasy two other people, enchanted by the young woman's beauty. To reveal more of this superbly made, beautifully written novel would be to cheat the reader of very real pleasure. There is violence, even tragedy, but there is also great delicacy of feeling - a sensitive compassion for all of the characters. The parallels with the Minotaur myth are not laboured; nevertheless at the centre of the maze is the monster who is not wholly bestial, whose yearning for the humanity he knows to be inside him is almost too deep for tears. It is an entirely admirable fiction whose translators deserve high praise for their scrupulous service to a remarkable and brilliant author.

From the same publishers comes *The*

The truth at the heart of the labyrinth

Crying Heart Tattoo. Potential readers should not be put off by the unpromising title or the displeasing dust-jacket. The point of it all is gradually revealed in the course of an eccentric confessional novel of the kind which middle-aged American writers seem to manage with such effortless lack of embarrassment. The central character, still known to the remnants of his family as Sonny, learns at the beginning of the book of the death of his life-long love, Felicity. Their association began when he was a teenager and she was a ripe thirty-two, making whatever efforts were in her power towards the rehabilitation of her husband, mentally and emotionally stricken by his war experience. She initiates the boy gently enough into sexual pleasure but does not seduce him until the eve of his first marriage. Although Sonny absents himself from Felicity for quite long periods during which they do not communicate, he returns to her at crucial moments in his life and on each of these occasions she relates to him a strange parable of herself in the persona of a primitive tribeswoman. Gravid with an imaginative and resilient woman's rationalization of her own self-destructive response to hostile circumstance.

If Felicity is a little crazy but warmly generous, Sonny is by no means admirable. The novel traces his development from a normal, innocent, rather nice boy to "the meanest, toughest, most selfish son-of-a-bitch who ever walked."

It is not quite that. Even in his quintessential depravity he retains a certain honesty and a genuine capacity for loving. And indeed the two main characters have depth and a

degree of psychological mystery which make them all the more convincing. The prose is lively and apt for all the author's various purposes. Apart from a somewhat vague mysticism (expounded by Felicity) towards the end of the novel, which David Martin rather scurries past as though not really convinced himself, the book is satisfying, entertaining and compassionate, albeit a great deal more scard than the tributes quoted on its jacket suggest.

Lord of the Dance (*Gollancz, £8.95*) by Robin Lloyd-Jones won the Bookshelf/Arrow First Novel Competition. Not surprisingly, it is a picaresque novel, set in sixteenth-century India during the conquests of the Mogul emperor Akbar, of astonishing imagination and brilliant incident. The novel is a pastiche of the style of the great writers of the period, the prose is fluent and versatile, the central character is well-drawn but rather too superficial for what must be intended as a very serious novel. The descriptions are vivid - all too vivid! For the book is also repulsive: a relentless, pitiless chronicle of cruelty to man and beast. Hardly a page goes by without some hideous visitation of evil upon body or mind, as though the author had catalogued every malady, affliction, indignity, parasite, pestilence, violation and outrage that could assail men and women and determinedly included them in his narrative alongside all the fouler functions of the human body. Worse, there is an element of pitch-black farce in some of the episodes which is noisome. No doubt the very serious purpose of the novel is a resounding bout of anger at the savagery of existence, the monstrous horrors inflicted upon people by the

vagaries of religion and superstition, the vile atrocity of absolute power, the bitter paradoxes of an allegedly benign creation. All this is suggested in the heavily ironic epigraph from which the novel takes its title. It would be unjust not to recognize a writer of considerable talent, but your reviewer has never been more relieved to close a book.

Naomi Mitchison's *Not By Bread Alone* (*Martin Boyars, £7.95*) is a provocative novel of ideas, set in the future. As might be expected the scientific infrastructure is extremely convincing. Diligent and selfless biologists discover a way of improving plant performance which enables a vast multinational conglomerate to provide the entire world with Freefood. Military rivalries, ideological tensions are forgotten. Then things start going wrong and the latent poisons in the humble potato and the unassuming yam fructify too. The multinational hydra has as one of its heads an "Ideas" department, the implications of which in terms of mass communication must weigh upon all our thinking beings and some of our consciences. The ethical dilemmas are obvious and diligently explored. Unfortunately the quality of writing and the ferocity of characterization does not match the intellectual force and integrity of the book. The multinational board would have to be much more powerful than they are made to seem if they were to compete with the natural vanity and ambition of local, let alone international, politicians. And the central characters might achieve more impetus if they were not sizing themselves up in asides reminiscent of Enid Blyton.

Stuart Evans

Historical novels
The coloured past

Richard III has an enduring fascination for the reader, and as it turns out, the historian. Could he possibly have been as black as he was painted? Or was he as maligned as good King Macbeth by wicked Tudor historians and playwrights, with a whole set of axes to grind? Certainly in recent years Josephine Tey, Rhoda Edwards and Rosemary Hawley Jarman have set to with the whitewash brush, and now here is an American, Sharon K. Penman, with *The Sunne in Splendour* (*Macmillan, £9.95*) a very long book indeed, covering almost the whole of Richard's life.

She has spent 12 years writing this novel, and it portrays an enormous scene, with many characters, the most notable being the splendid elder brother King Edward, virile, handsome, irresistible, causing chaos by his marriage to a woman whose relatives were experts at the art of the double cross. Bloody and violent deaths, fearful betrayals by close relatives, dizzying shifts of power, astonishing battles - Sharon Penman is peculiarly good at battles - the whole seems very convincing. Richard is the good man, loyal, honest, true to his brothers, and forced into acts of savagery only by the frightful circumstances attending them. There are quite possible alternatives for the deaths of Clarence, and the little princes, and Richard's very strange marriage to the widow of his enemy, Richard-freaks and open minds will enjoy it, anyone else may be driven to madness.

Another blockbuster (historical novels are inclined to run to great thick books extending over centuries) is Reay Tannahill's *A Dark and Distant Shore* (*Century, £8.95*) a saga, as they are called, covering a mere 90 years of some pretty tough goings-on, mostly over the ownership of property.

In 1803 a rich grocer from Glasgow buys a West Highland castle from its careless (and bankrupt) laird. For Mungo Telford, this is a dream of his penniless boyhood come true. For Villa Cameron, aged six, daughter of the laird, it is the beginning of an obsession - to recover her heritage, by hook or by crook. And she does.

Like *Scarlett O'Hara's* Tara, is both a place and a dream. Villa's early years are spent with the son and daughter-in-law of Mungo Telford growing up in London to be a beautiful young woman, who learns, and plots, and schemes, attended by Sorley McClure, a boy from Kinvel and her only link with the past.

Her brief marriage to Andrew Lauriston produces three sons, and there is a long running love affair with a brother-in-law. Add to this a progress through the Victorian Industrial Revolution, some extremely odd happenings when almost every male heir to Kinvel meets a sudden and convenient death, and you have a rattling good yarn of considerable length and thickness, with the Crimean War, the siege of Lucknow, and life in 19th century America making guest appearances in what turns out to be a full blown melodrama. I enjoyed it, though I didn't care for Villa Cameron much, as girl

or matriarch. But then a lot of people didn't care for *Scarlett O'Hara* either.

War is always good for historical novels, and Joanna Trollope's *The Steps of the Sun* (*Hutchinson, £7.95*) takes its characters into the Boer War. As usual with this author, the characters are themselves fresh, alive and unbacked, set against familiar backgrounds. Matthew Paget is a difficult, unconventional young man, sent down from Oxford after a prank, a sad trial to his father the Archbishop. So is his sister Frances, an early feminist, and the beloved of their cousin, Will. Frances feels she must make something of her life: Will, who is in the Army, is badly wounded, and has his view of life destroyed by the horrors of his particular war, while Matthew finds, in the same war, a new life and personal happiness. An acquaintance met at Oxford, the cad (no other word for it) Hendon Bashford, a rich social climber of the worst kind from South Africa, has a malign influence over the Paget family, causing Matthew's departure from Oxford, and being in part responsible for Will's despair. Joanna Trollope is a most accomplished novelist, and every book (this is her fifth) seems more enjoyable than the last.

Sharpe's Sword (*Collins, £8.50*) is Bernard Cornwell's fourth book in the adventures of Richard Sharpe, risen from the ranks to fight in the Peninsular War. This time he has a cold and ruthless enemy in the handsome shape of Colonel Leroux. As usual, there are authentic touches to chill the blood, such as the "death room" for English soldiers in which the gravely wounded Sharpe finds himself, tended by the drunken Sergeant Connelly (a real historical character). The big battle here is Salamanca, and if Sharpe were just a thought more introspective and not quite such a tough, he could be to the Army what Hornblower was to the Navy. Sharpe's Company (the third volume) is in paperback from Fontana at £1.50.

When is a historical novel not historical? When it takes place in my lifetime, is my view, but then Gwendoline Butler's *Albion Walk* (*Collins, £8.95*) is a most engaging counter to the theatrical history from the 1920s to the recent past. The book begins with a great lady of the theatre, Alice May, being given a dinner at the Mansion House in Coronation year. Daughter of an unsuccessful actress, deserted by her when still a child, Alice is left the detritus of the theatre in London by a father she met only once, as he was on his way to his death in the trenches.

Disputed legacies, court scenes, theatrical triumphs and disasters in the years of Noel Coward and Gertrude Lawrence (both of whom appear) add a romance with her masterful cousin Matthew, whom she marries, and with whom she fights furiously, from a fast moving and entertaining story which is a lot of fun, though I didn't believe a word of it.

Philip Toomey



Early seventeenth-century composite horse from Deccan Painting, by Mark Zebrowski (Philip Wilson, £37.50). Such composite figures, and the tiny grotesques in the background of some Islamic paintings, derive from pre-Islamic animistic cults that were popular in Central Asia.

Crime
Death in khaki

Corporal Smithers, Deceased

By Jack Scott

(Gollancz, £6.95)

It's not often I recommend books for your guest-room bedside table. But here's something that, picked up by a visitor, is likely to be rumoured for years. It's a small book. This is not simply because of its unusual setting, a remote Army sub-depot in Yorkshire, though that's a background more than usually interesting, but because it has all sorts of other virtues as well. And its author's own background adds a poignant extra: until, Irish in life, he began writing crime novels (he is also responsible for the increasingly well-done Inspector Rossier half-humorous police procedurals) he was Silver Johnny Gray, the Singing Cowboy.

He is now in his 60s, which makes all the more remarkable the splendour of his present-day Army life. He has chosen to live a very difficult character to being off from the inside, a Company Sergeant Major of limited outlook but strong native intelligence, and through his eyes he gets right into that curious non-committed khaki life, even down to the tiny unacknowledged rituals of bar and barracks-room. But, beyond this, he succeeds most skilfully in varying the tone of his tale from the robustly funny, through genuine excitement to, yes, the tender. Move those bedside book-ends an inch further apart.

H. R. F. Keating

Poetry
Ruffian Romantic

George Barker is seventy this year. That comes as bit of a surprise. I had always thought he was going to die young - but then perhaps he will. There is a sense, after all, in which he has remained what Edwin Muir called him as long ago as 1939: "all poet of genius still at the undrained stage." The words in his *Anna Domini* (*Faber, £4*) is hardly that of a finished man, though the title piece does try for a kind of serenity:

at a time of bankers
to exercise a little charity;
at a time of soldiers
to consider small gardens;
At a time of categorical imperatives
to guess about clouds . . .

Barker, a shy ruffian Romantic, has always been good at guessing about clouds. If in his older age he chooses to celebrate his own wisdom in the art of cloud-guesswork, who can blame him? Anyway, he celebrates his fellow artists with an equal eloquence in a poem called "Elegy," and then (characteristically) in "The Ship of Fools" throws good cold salt water on the whole enterprise:

O long and late we boozed and ate
and rogered at the game,
and if we had known what we know now

it would have been the same
These three poems comprise the book and while none of them seems to me Barker at his best, none of them could have been written by anyone else. Here is a writer who needs to be his own writer, a shy ruffian Romantic, a seedy (and developable) South Coast resort. Leisurely pace leaves time for humour, and dropping labyrinthine complications.

Treasure Preserved, by David Williams (*Collins, £6.95*). Merchant-banker hero visits seedy (and developable) South Coast resort. Leisurely pace leaves time for humour, and dropping labyrinthine complications.

Such a morning it is when love
leans through geranium windows
and calls with a cockerel's tongue.
When red-haired girls scamper like
cows
over the rain-green grass,
and the sun drips honey.
When hedgehogs grow venerable,
berries dry black as blood,
and holes suck in their bees.

It is said to observe that these poems were written long ago, that there are no recent ones fit to compare with them, and to see Lee himself saying in his introductory note that he feels they were "written by someone I once was and who is so distant to me now." I scarcely recognize him anymore. All the same, there is something to be said for a poet who has not tried to force a genuine but slight gift further than it will go.

Geoffrey Hill's *The Mystery of the Charity of Charles Péguy* (*Agenda Editions with André Deutsch, £3*) is a longish poem written as a homage to one of the most interesting French writers of the last hundred years. Péguy's own verse has an idiosyncratic nobility in its reaching for the sublime. Hill does not seek to ape this, but it is plainly not a million miles away from his own aspirations. The result does not tell me much about Péguy that I did not know, and I confess to finding something disappointing in Hill's determination to look into some one else's heart in order to write. Still, as an exercise in empathy it must be said that this has the merit of matching a considerable talent to an elevated subject, and the ambitiousness of the project is certainly impressive.

Robert Nye

Old lovers and old enemies

Fools of Fortune

By William Trevor

(The Bodley Head, £7.50)

Ireland and England are old lovers as well as old enemies. This moving novel unravels a tangle of love and hate in our ancient and continuing battlefield, where murder can be seen as a sacred duty, and love as a betrayal.

It is 1918. The only trouble in sight for eight-year-old Willie Quinton, son of a rich Protestant Anglo-Irish mill-owner somewhere in the south-west, near Cork, is that he may be sent away to his father's old boarding school. Troubles come in the shape of Michael Collins and the Black and Tans; and his idyllic world is broken by a ghastly act of vengeance. Willie does what the men in his family have been doing for two centuries: he falls in love with one of his English cousins.

The novel tells the story of their love over the next 60 years down to the present. It is not an easy love, for destruction casts shadows from which there is no escape, particularly in Ireland. William Trevor interweaves past and present and future so cunningly that even unexpected shocks in the plot have an inevitable rightness once they have happened.

As usual, he is especially

good at a child's-eye-view of the world. The story is told by three narrators: Willie, his English cousin (for four-fifths of the book while they are young), and a third child. It is marvellously exact about memories of a distant childhood, the terrors and joys of a boarding school, the horrors of a finishing school for young ladies above Montreux.

It is a beautiful, affectionate and humorous, as well as a terrible story; and a pretty chilling one at that, for those who want to go fishing for allegories about the Anglo-Irish connexion. William Trevor at his best: for those who believe in the nonsense of racing books like greyhounds, it must be worth the Booker short-list at the very least.

Philip Howard

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TT4

Jolly non-boating weather, not forgetting the dog

Three Men (not) in a Boat, and most of the time without a dog, by Timothy Treadwell (Duckworth, £6.95). Jerome K. Jerome's classic was part of our childhood, handed down with Shaggy, the dog, and a tall tale against home-ickness. Whether you can recapture the first time careless capture of the silly-ass, self-satisfied, lower-jawed humor is doubtful, but here is a sparkling effort. The three friends set out to walk along Oyster Dyke. For the same at Hampton Court read the labyrinthine of a multi-story car park. For that the of pineapple, talk in surtitles, the glambiness of movies and camp-sites. Gentle reader, I have a confession to make. A very funny thing happened to us around supper-time that night: You get the idea? Then there is the over-present threat of Welsh harp music. It is all good cheer for of an understanding sort, but then so was the original.

THE TIMES DIARY

Monroe doctrine

The award-winning Iranian playwright Gholam-Hossein Saeedi has been telling admirers at the Royal Court Theatre about the artist's lot under the Ayatollah. He watched a Marilyn Monroe film on Tehran television, and where she had not been cut out of the film, a blob of ink was placed on her hair and another on her body. In the dubbing she was made to talk about Islam.

Mind you, Saeedi, who is a refugee in France has complaints about us, too. He says he suffered humiliating treatment on arrival at Dover, where the roof of his car was opened and its wheels removed. He was then asked for autographed copies of his Persian books "for translation by the police". Saeedi says he could not help writing some rude remarks in the books as he signed them.

Making waves

The corridors of Westminster are littered now with photo-copies of pages from Robert Waller's *Journal of British Politics*, which gives detailed descriptions of the new parliamentary constituencies. Most MPs are too mean to buy the book, but Robin Maxwell-Hyslop, Conservative MP for Tiverton, is in any case spreading scepticism about its accuracy. The description of Tiverton starts: "now the only constituency in Devon without a sea coast." Not so, says Maxwell-Hyslop. His constituency meets the sea at Starcross. And where, he demands to know, is Exeter's shoreline?

Travelling by Amtrak from New Haven to Boston, Professor Richard Cobb noticed opposite Old Saybrook station a café called Terminal Lunch. He could not test the claim, but if anyone else wants to try, the place is two stops before Mystic.

On the wet side

Fly-tieing classes are in progress at the House of Commons in preparation for the annual charity fishing match in Sussex on Sunday week when MPs challenge a team from the Salmon and Trout Association. The MPs will be led, as usual, by Sir Geoffrey Johnson Smith, his colleagues' fondest memory of last year's match is that the newly knighted Johnson Smith was persuaded to attach a delicate light leader to his line. He then promptly hooked an overweight trout, which had him running up and down the bank as he tried to land it, crying: "I have no faith in my leader."

BARRY FANTONI



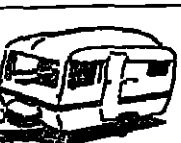
Apparently the Swedish navy wanted to put in a bid but they couldn't locate it.

Guest of honour

Mrs PHS, touring the provinces, tells me Lord Forte should have been well pleased when he visited his Albany Hotel in Glasgow yesterday. During her stay, in advance of his Lordship's arrival, feather dusters were flickering everywhere, all the glass was being cleaned and polished, every plant reported, a totally new bed of shrubs was being planted in the forecourt, and the palm trees were being given manicures with nail scissors.

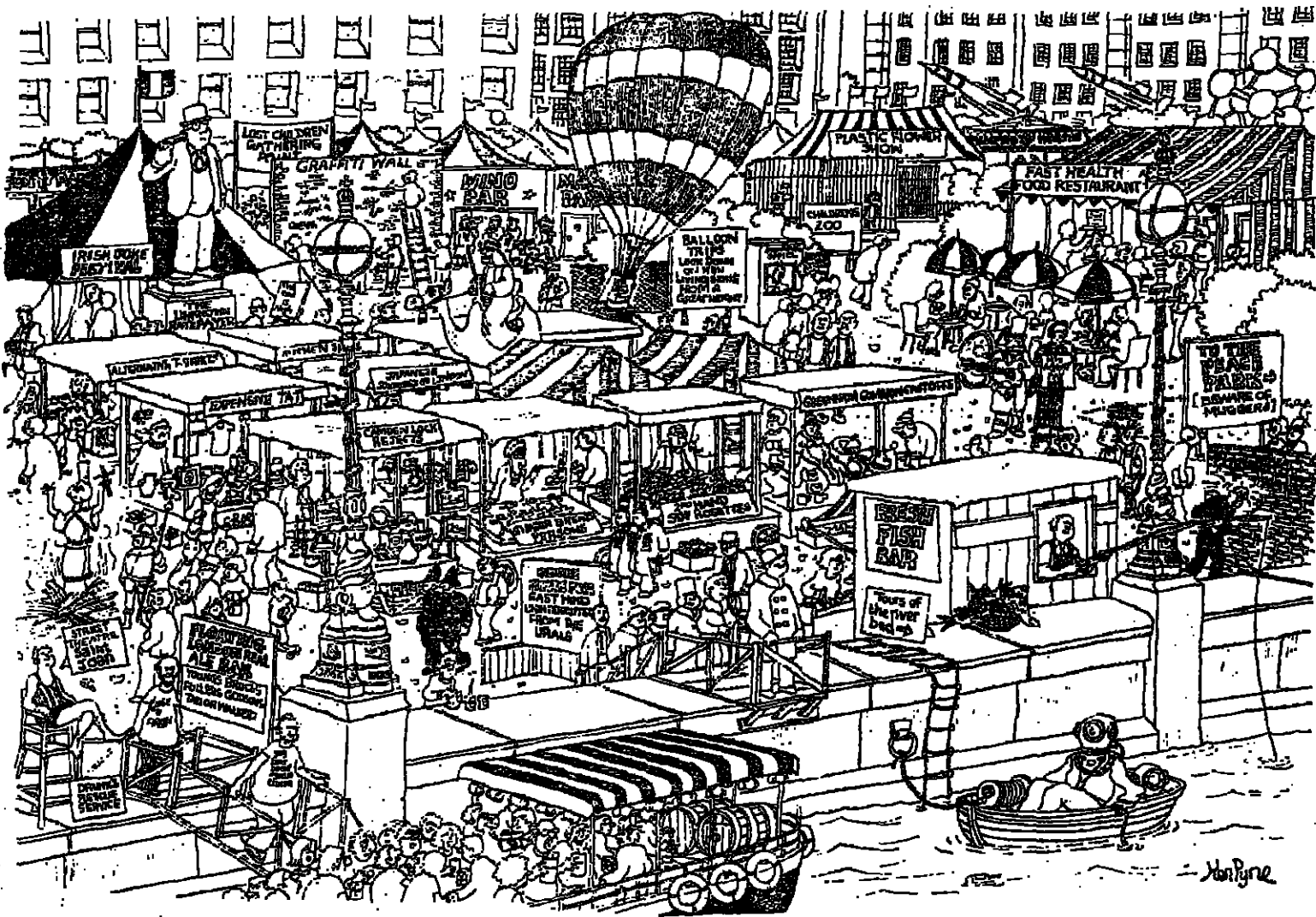
No cover-up

The smoke-detecting fire alarms in British Rail's new executive sleepers are giving trouble on the electrified London-Glasgow run, persistently sounding in the absence of combustion. It happened three times on Mrs PHS's journey to Glasgow: once before the train even left Euston, once at 1.30 am, and once at 5.30. The steward told her that a team of engineers were on the train in an attempt to catch the gremlins, which had previously caused as many as 22 false alarms in one night. He also showed her how he and his colleagues had removed covers so that they could silence the alarms more quickly. British Rail tell me that they are pleased that the alarms, installed after the Taunton fire tragedy of 1978, "should err on the side of safety".



The Caravan Club magazine *En Route* explains in its latest issue that the Club Road Map had been "slightly optimistic" showing some of London's orbital motorway, M25, as complete. On another page the magazine notes that members may be wondering why a club site is shown at Henley-on-Thames when none yet exists: "We were just too optimistic". On yet another page there is an apology because some copies of the club's sites directory "have one section missing and one section duplicated." If in doubt, *En Route* suggests, ring the East Grinstead information office.

PHS



A South Bank show that could run and run

The GLC has ordered a detailed study of ways to brighten up one of London's prime riverside sites. Simon Jenkins has some suggestions for the planners

Off we go to the South Bank again. Now that the GLC is launching another attempt to take civilization to the frozen wastes of Lambeth, architects have been harnessed to the sleigh, with the eccentric Cedric Price in the lead. Ken Livingstone and Tony Banks of County Hall are ready to cry "Left". The usual obstacles - planners, lawyers, accountants, government inspectors - are in place to say "Not yet" or "But wait". The enterprise has been given six months to show what could be done. After that, it will abort.

The South Bank needs no introduction. It was cleared to be the site for the 1951 Festival of Britain. Since then it has been an all-too-public museum of how British architecture and planning have failed to answer the challenge of urban renewal. Ironically only a few hundred yards north, in Covent Garden, conservation and the private sector (initially daggled with the GLC) have met and overcome that challenge.

Meanwhile, the old "Dome of Discovery" site stands as it did on the day of demolition, a third of a century ago. The famous east wind, "uninterrupted from the Urals," blows across it, bringing echoes of Stalin's free-fire-zone approach to urban design. Beyond, London's cultural Hindu Kush - the Festival Hall, the Hayward Gallery and the National Theatre - carries the horizon east, towards the City. By day, only summer sun brings a sprinkling of people to their slopes. At night, visitors scurry across Waterloo Bridge to their auditoria before retreating to suburbs and Home Counties.

The Hayward Gallery was designed by the GLC as a deliberate two-fingers-of-ugliness to London aesthetes. Like the Barbican Centre, a structure would have been impeccable conduct in any profession more sensitive about its public image than architecture. Only Denys Lasdun's National Theatre has at least a sculptural sophistication, though planning has forced it hesitantly back from the river as if unsure of its relationship with mother earth. As at the Barbican, the pedestrian decking which has meant the left's main contribution to urban planning - because "the

people" do not drive cars - is here seen at its most senseless and confusing.

In between these monoliths are the spaces which now provide Mr Price with his opportunity. At present they are nothing but car parks, patches of grass and a sense of cosmic emptiness. They have seen much progressive wishful thinking: Sir Peter Hall of the National Theatre once wanted secondhand bookstalls (a safe sort of commerce) in front of his particular palace. Mr Livingstone has planted a ridiculous "peace park" in front of his. There are intermittent attempts at "street theatre". Skateboarders are chased out of the acres of concrete bunkers. Only the muggers have free rein - the one group who can have no complaint about GLC landscape design.

So what are Messrs Price, Banks and Livingstone going to do? Will they muller on about homelessness and the needs of the local inhabitants (in this case mostly pigeons)? Will Tony Banks, the council's arts commissar, propose his palace of workers' culture, to become in due course another sad monument to the memory of the unknown ratepayer? Will they all complain that there is no money to do anything and turn away? The GLC has done that often enough since its unnecessary invention in 1965. Nothing suggests it has changed.

Yet London in the last decade has

shown an impressive ability to do free of charge what the GLC has wasted a fortune failing to do on the South Bank. Covent Garden, Spitalfields, Portobello Road, Camden Lock, the new market streets of Shoreditch - all are proving that people and money for renewal will come to an area where the least amount of planning and regulation is present.

What is essential is the ruthless exclusion of comprehensive redevelopment and modern building, and of the high initial rents associated with them. Blight, once regarded as the curse of the modern city, has become a valued preliminary to its salvation. "Non-conforming occupiers" and short-lease holders, the bane of the planner's life, supply precisely the informal economic activity which lies at the root of most sensitive urban revival.

The street market was once regarded as a dying London institution. It is now a recognized stimulus to the recovery of surrounding neighbourhoods (however much the residents may complain).

Only drastic measures along these lines will get people and activity back to the South Bank. It should be declared a "mini-enterprise zone". The entire site, from the County Hall car park - where left-wing councillors still gaily park their bourgeois cars - to the National Theatre, should be divided into small plots and auctioned on short

leases. The only restriction should be that no lease be permitted more than one plot per sub-division and no structure be more than one storey high.

Subject to these limitations, plots could be bought and sold and put to any use whatsoever. Mr Price's architecture should be confined to the normal "site and service" functions of a Third-World shanty town: water points, toilets and perhaps a few low walls to supply initial shelter supports.

The South Bank should become a neighbourhood of commercial informality, its passages, taverns, arches, decks and open spaces should fill with people buying, selling, eating, living, entertaining, wandering, looking. If monuments are needed in city centres, here should be a monument to the small-scale entrepreneurial spirit which has always underpinned urban change. The South Bank may not possess the "trigger" of decrepit buildings, as at Covent Garden or Camden Lock, but it has a magnificent site. If a more powerful magnet is required, it should be one of aggressive popularity: not another concert hall, but a ferris wheel or a balloon ascent or a warship moored to the river bank.

Such a South Bank would be - though who are we to say - part flea-market, part workshop, part tourist trap: a den of pleasure and doubtless a den of vice.

A jungle of huts, sheds and stalls would spread across the site, creeping up the stairways and decks and encasing and softening the great lumps of modern architecture and culture.

Such a solution would offer London a rare instance of the philosophy of the free market existing happily alongside that of small-is-beautiful populism. Heaven knows, the place would be stuffed with "workers". It would be capitalism hand in hand with communalism: Mrs Thatcher, dare one imagine it, with Mr Livingstone.

What is more, unlike every other solution for this blighted area, this one would cost no public money and if it did not work it would not matter, we could all return to square one.

The author is Political Editor of The Economist.

Ronald Butt

Polling day and the Stuttgart factor

Those who look into Mrs Thatcher's diary for signs for and against a June general election tend to take the Williamsburg summit between May 28 and May 30 as a determining point of reference. Does this feature inhibit an election early in June (say, June 9 or 16) on the grounds that it would not do for Mrs Thatcher to be out of the country, even for three days, in the middle of the campaign? Or could it provide a world stage on which she could stride, super-televized, just when such publicity could be most useful?

The usefulness of the publicity I do not doubt. But it is hard to believe that she could be so far away from the daily skirmishing which can so easily turn into the sort of major engagement that goes wrong if the commander-in-chief is not there to take charge.

If, therefore, the election is in June at all (which even now begs a few questions) and assuming Mrs Thatcher goes to Williamsburg, polling day could not sensibly be before June 23, which would allow the full three weeks campaigning after her return, with whatever trophies she can bring back. But many Conservatives believe she would not delay a June election beyond June 16 - in which case it must at least be a question whether she could go to Williamsburg at all.

Mrs Thatcher, however, has another overseas engagement which has a far closer relationship to the election campaign, but to which curiously little attention has been paid. On June 6-7 she is due to be in Stuttgart at the EEC summit at which she expects the final settlement of Britain's budget rebate, which was promised in March. She would also like at least some evidence of a start on the long-term restructuring of EEC finances, though which is not worried by the prediction of M Gaston Thorn, president of the European Commission, that if there is no longer-term settlement, a crisis at Stuttgart could hold up Britain's 1983 budget settlement. M Thorn is considered to be a little alarmist on the subject because the Commission urgently wants to precipitate long-term reforms.

But what does Stuttgart tell us about the precise date of the election if it is held in June, or about whether June is a more sensible month than October for holding it? By analogy with Williamsburg, strict logic might suggest that if Mrs Thatcher is in Germany on June 6-7, the election should not be until June 30, which strikes me as getting unsuitably late in the summer season.

Strict logic, however, need not apply. If the election were on June 23, Mrs Thatcher could more easily keep an eye on it from Stuttgart (where she would at least be virtually in the same time-zone) than would be possible were she at Williamsburg. A one-day visit would be enough. Above all, she would be engaged at Stuttgart on questions vitally affecting one of the most important election issues: do we stay in the Common Market with the Conservatives or leave it with Labour?

In a hung parliament, a Tory-Alliance coalition would enable us to stay in, but the electoral arithmetic that might bring this about carries more risks of making Mr Foot prime minister than most pro-European care to contemplate - and that goes also for the heads of other member governments.

When they meet Mrs Thatcher at Stuttgart, they will be faced with a prime minister unambiguously committed to EEC membership who is on the brink (perhaps, in the

middle) of a campaign against a Labour opponent determined to take us out, and they know that the electorate is far from being in love with the Common Market.

It does not necessarily follow from President Mitterrand's socialism that he wants Mr Foot in power. Mr Foot is a nuclear disarmar whose view of the Soviet Union is subliminally conditioned by the old slogan: no enemies on the left. But Mitterrand went to Bonn to address the Bundestag on nuclear disarmament in support of Chancellor Kohl and in a sense distinctly unhelpful to the Social Democrats during the German election campaign.

There have also been subtle shifts in the Franco-British-German relationship. Mrs Thatcher has already met Herr Kohl four times; they get on well and see eye to eye. This contrasts with her old uneasy relationship with Helmut Schmidt and is matched with an increasing tendency for the Germans and French to differ - on economic policy, for instance, and on free trade versus protectionism.

None of this alters the fact that the Franco-German relationship is the axle of the Community. Yet there is a sense in which the three countries also look increasingly like a triangle. There are more bilateral Anglo-French talks as well as closer Anglo-German accord. Mrs Thatcher and President Mitterrand tend to agree about foreign policy.

There is no evidence that President Mitterrand does not want Mr Foot in power, but there is also no evidence that he does. Herr Kohl certainly does not. They will act accordingly in the matter of the EEC budget at least. As for the longer term budget restructuring, there is scepticism in London about whether at Stuttgart this will go beyond procedural arrangements. The argument is complex. There are those (the French, Italians and Greeks) who think the Community needs more money. If (which the British and Germans doubt) this is right, it is to be raised by means that would be neutral between states (higher VAT for instance) or in some biased way which makes some pay more than others?

Already the British and Germans consider they pay a disproportionate amount of the budget and want their grievances dealt with. Then, should the cost of the agricultural policy be controlled - and if so, how? These things are too complex to be settled at Stuttgart but the tone there could be electorally very important for Mrs Thatcher. The good men at Stuttgart will doubtless come to the aid of her party.

Certainly a June election would allow Mrs Thatcher to be seen winning concessions for Britain during the campaign. The European Commissioners also favour June because they want a pro-EEC British government quickly re-established so that they can proceed with their reforms.

The arguments are not, however, conclusive. Stuttgart could also provide a stage on which Mr Foot could play as big a part as Mrs Thatcher, even if she gets what she wants, since it focuses on a campaign issue that could suit him more than her to stress. By October, on the other hand, she will have won her concessions but the broader argument over the EEC will have fallen into the background. If it is a question of choosing between one month and another, Stuttgart could be taken equally strongly as assisting the case for October.

Ian Bradley

Just don't touch it, that's all I ask

Only the most perceptive or inquisitive guest at the Station Hotel in Inverness could be aware of the dramatic change of ownership which has taken place in the last few weeks. The bedsprings and bathmats still proudly display the initials of British Transport Hotels, of which it was for so long the most northerly outpost, the spoons in the dining room still bear the unmistakable insignia of British Rail; and the silverware of the old Highland Railway is still on show in the cocktail bar.

It is true that the name of the previous owners has been deleted from the foot of the bill. But there is no mention there of the new owners, the three Virani brothers, who acquired the Inverness hotel along with the station hotels at Perth, Aberdeen, Glasgow Central, Newcastle, Hull and Peterborough and the Manor House Hotel in Moriston-hampstead, Devon, in the great sale of British Rail's hotel chain earlier this year.

At a time when more and more of the moors and glens of Scotland are falling into the hands of Arab and Dutch investors, few eyebrows have been raised at this Ugandan Asian takeover in the capital of the Highlands. I hope the new owners will not think it an impermissible I make one plea to them on behalf of all romantic and rail travellers throughout Britain. It is that in the case of the Inverness hotel they set aside all their thoughts of improvement and modernization and leave the place exactly as it is, a unique relic of the golden age of railway hotels.

Porters may no longer meet the London trains, or omnibuses the Loch Ness steamers, as they did before the war, but in most other respects the hotel is much as it was in the days when, to quote from an old brochure, it was "patronized by members of the Royal Family and by most of the nobility of Europe". You can still breakfast off porridge

and kippers in the dining room after descending from the night sleeper from Euston. You can still stop your bath water from draining away with an extraordinary, and very effective, Victorian contraption which resembles a prisoner's ball and chain.

And you can still escape from the upper corridors down a rusting wrought iron fire escape to the platform of the station itself, from where, if the blaze were particularly intense or the desire to flee especially strong, you could soon be on your way to Kyle of Lochalsh or the most northerly extremities of the British mainland.

Inverness has the distinctive features of the great Victorian railway hotels, from pigeon droppings on the windowills, discoloured bath-water, clashing floral wallpaper, stained glass windows and potted plants in the corridors. The bedrooms have those solid, reassuring old-fashioned accoutrements like mahogany wardrobes, proper towel bathmats and bowls of dried flowers on the dressing table that you don't find in modern hotels.

So please, Virani brothers, don't repaint those bilious lemon yellow walls on the upper corridors, or replace the shocking pink lamp shades which stick out from the wall behind the great staircase. Don't throw out the wickerwork chairs in the entrance lobby which look as though they were salvaged from the state room of the Titanic. And whatever you do, please don't get rid of the map of Scotland near the entrance porch which dates from the BR's heyday and shows everything except the railway lines.

Leave the Station Hotel, Inverness, as a retreat, shabby and seedy as it may be, where some of us may still go and dream of steam, and mails after high tea in the griddle car.



Political priests: how the rules can change

A senior Jesuit priest from Central America was summoned to Rome for a private audience with Pope John Paul II. For half an hour, so the story goes, he sat in silence, listening to the stern ticking-off for allowing priests under his jurisdiction to engage in politics. But for the next half an hour, he explained the situation in detail, how the line between preaching and politics in the turmoil of Central America had to be drawn again daily, how the Nicaraguan revolutionary government was only held back from Cuban style Marxism by the presence of priests in the Cabinet, and how each side perpetually denied the church any neutral non-political middle ground on which to stand. And the Pope was convinced, and gave his blessing.

Or so it is said. It is also said in politically conscious Roman Catholic circles, somewhat cynically, that the Pope's policy is: "The church must not engage in politics (except in Poland)". All things considered, the papal line on church and politics is not precise; Cardinal Bume, faced with his predicament over Mr Bruce Kent and the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, has to feel his own way.

In the United States, the Roman Catholic Conference of Bishops came under a barrage of angry criticism from the White House, the Pentagon, and right-wing Roman Catholic congressmen for threatening to denounce American nuclear policy as immoral. The most telling criticism came from some of their own laity, who argued that the bishops were going too far into making practical or political judgments in which they had no competence as churchmen.

In the latest draft of the bishops'

statement on the issue, these criticisms seem to have been heeded, and the line redrawn, more narrowly. Before they did so, however, it was seriously suggested that the United States Navy might have to start questioning its Roman Catholic missile submarine captains, to see if they would obey orders to launch their weapons. More than half the American armed forces are said to be Roman Catholics; the Pentagon was understandably alarmed at the way things were developing.

Yet 10 years ago there was a Roman Catholic priest who was a congressman and staunch supporter of President Nixon, for whom he was known to have drafted speeches. There was no outcry then, and further back than that, there were the draft card-burning, Berigan brothers, early leaders of the anti-Vietnam war movement and both priests of the Roman Catholic Church. They in turn could point to the late Cardinal Spellman, who urged America into the Vietnam mess in the first place as part of his obsessive anti-communism.

In those days, political action by Roman Catholic clerics was almost invariably on the right hand side of the issue, whatever it was. In 1983, it

is equally almost invariably on the left. The theology literature, as practised in Latin America, maintains that there never was any neutral ground, to be "apolitical" was necessarily to be right-wing. The church and its hierarchy, according to this extremely influential theory, has no choice but to become the voice of the poor and oppressed against the rich and mighty. The church is thus political to its very soul. But that is not the papal line. The three priestly cabinet ministers in Nicaragua were obliged to agree, at the Vatican's insistence, that they should refrain from celebrating mass, publicly or privately, while they remained in the government.

The uncertainty in the church's mind was well illustrated by a strange incident in Scotland during the papal visit last year. The official text of his address to clergy, released in advance, had the Pope declaring: "In your service to the human family you must take care not to confuse the *regnum dei* with the *regnum hominis*, as if political, social, and economic liberation were the same as salvation in Jesus Christ." But this interesting statement was not uttered: the Pope seems to have struck it out at the very last minute. And it is not

irrelevant to the present situation that he ended the same address with a ringing prayer: "From nuclear war, from incalculable self-destruction, from every kind of war, deliver us..."

If this is the Pope's prayer, this is also presumably a legitimate vocation for a priest such as Mr Bruce Kent. No one will say where the line is to be drawn, or even what clear principles are to be applied. What has not been challenged, what is rapidly evolving theology of the relationship between the *regnum dei* and the *regnum hominis*, however, is the principle that a priest cannot separate himself from the church, as represented by his bishop.

Unknown in the Roman Catholic Church is the kind of freelance freedom enjoyed by someone like the late Canon John Collins to take up whatever political causes moved him, without reference to the Anglican hierarchy. It is the sense of discipline in the Roman Church over its priests which denies that church the luxury of standing back, and forces it to face such complex dilemmas as the case of Mr Kent.

Clifford Longley

Religious Affairs Correspondent



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NANNY ON THE WIRE

When it first dawned on the public, only a couple of years ago, that the constriction of television channels which has for nearly two generations made necessary the regulated monopolies of the BBC and ITV might soon end, giving place to a situation where no technological obstacle existed to an almost unlimited output of different programmes, there was much excitement about a new era in which television could become as free to the play of market and intellectual forces as the press is today. It was at once an exhilarating and an alarming prospect. Vested interests began at once to issue warnings that liberty would mean licence, more would mean worse, and Gresham's Law would ravage the air-waves. As usual, familiarity has trimmed the more extreme hopes as well as fears, and today's White Paper, closely following the recommendations of last year's Hunt report, proposes a cautious and familiar framework which should command broad assent.

It is economics which seems likely to prevent cable from quickly attaining the full freedom, such as it is, of the paper

press. Unless it proves exceedingly profitable, it may be years before it becomes accessible even to half the population. Given that constraint, there is less of a case for imposing on the entrepreneur any greater apparatus of control than that provided, generally by the laws of slander, trade description and obscenity.

Perhaps initially some form of regulation in the public interest may be unavoidable in view of the Home Office obsession with these forms. Eventually, with the advent of satellite TV and the completion of the cable network, a free-for-all can be envisaged where the imposition of special controls should become unnecessary – and indeed, through sheer weight of material, impracticable.

But the regulation should be the lightest that can do the job. Oversight comparable to that exercised by the IBA and BBC, and similar obligations as to public service, would be too much. So long as BBC and ITV are available – and it is intended that all cable services should carry the full schedules of both – the other channels need be less burdened with responsibility.

There is of course a danger that a new deluge of trash may lure audiences away from the older channels and tempt them to compromise their own standards. The present quality of our broadcasting system is exceptional in the world, and deserves to be safeguarded when the conditions which moulded our present system are about to disappear.

These fears are particularly associated with the possibility that cable promoters could secure exclusive rights to major sporting events, or fill their channels with soft pornography or with old rubbish available for next to nothing from "vast archives" in the USA. Hunt proposed measures to minimise these risks, and the White Paper strengthens them. It adds provisions to help ITV compete on equal terms with channels making comparable use of advertisements. Given these safeguards, the existing networks should be able to sustain their standards unless they lose the will to do so. If anything, indeed, the system now proposed leans too much towards nannyism and not enough towards laissez-faire.

HAVE PENSION, WILL TRAVEL

Pension provision is an emotive and complicated subject. There have in recent years been several changes in the system of state pensions and also in the regulations affecting the private sector. But many anomalies remain. One of the most important is that early leavers from a pension fund contracted out the state scheme suffer a serious loss of pension expectations.

The difficulty was recognised in the Occupational Pensions Board report on *Early Leavers* in June 1981. It said that "two changes of employment in a lifetime can reduce a person's pension rights by more than a half, despite his having been a member of equally good occupational pension schemes in each employment". The problem arises because pension entitlement is related to final year income in each employment and, in an inflationary environment, the real value of that final year income is continually falling. The drastic loss of pension rights mentioned in the OPB example occurred with annual earnings growth of 15 per cent, roughly the average rate in Britain in the 1970s.

One answer, favoured by the OPB in its report, would be to oblige pension funds to revalue the preserved pension rights of early leavers. But this would, in certain circumstances, impose a serious strain on company finances since the employer would be expected to eliminate any deficiency in pension fund provision.

A much neater and simpler, but also more radical, solution is proposed by the Centre of Policy Studies in a study published yesterday. This points out that the self-employed, who can deduct 17½ per cent of net relevant earnings from taxable

income to build up retirement savings, are in a privileged position compared to those in pensionable employment. The self-employed carry their pension "pot" around with them, no matter how often they change the nature of their work activities. The Centre recommends that everyone, including people who now as a matter of course join an occupational scheme, should have the option to save for retirement as if they were self-employed. Employees who made this choice would have a portable pension which they could take with them whenever they moved jobs.

This proposal has several advantages. There would be an obvious improvement in labour market mobility since anyone with a portable pension would not need to worry about the loss of pension expectations at the present associated with job changes. The argument may become of increasing relevance if the upturn in the economy becomes more vigorous and well-established in the next few months. It would be unfortunate if efficient high-productive companies were unable to expand because badly-designed pension arrangements hampered them in recruiting workers from inefficient low-productivity rivals.

But portable pensions can contribute more than a straightforward improvement in economic efficiency. There are wider and more interesting political attractions to the idea. The entitlement to pension rights in a company scheme is not direct ownership, but ownership at second hand, and does not encourage identification with the assets held by the scheme or with the success of the industries in which it invests. On the other

hand, if an individual maintains a clear personal stake in his retirement savings he is likely to be very concerned about their investment performance. He will also be more conscious of the merits of private property as an institution and more hostile to the threat of government direction of savings flows than if he belongs to a group scheme.

The portable pensions proposal would not be particularly disruptive. The number of people who would take up the option to save for retirement on their own account would probably not be very great in the first year or two. It is quite possible that in the course of a generation portable pensions would become more common than membership of an occupational pension scheme. But the change would be so gradual as to be consistent with the preference for evolution over revolution expressed by the OPB in its 1981 report.

The amount of money now being set aside for pensions is large. Last year the acquisition of assets by self-administered pension funds was £6,800m and substantial further pension fund contributions were made for management by insurance companies. Although these sums are being saved on behalf of almost twelve million people in occupational pension schemes, most of the beneficiaries have only a weak sense of ownership in the underlying assets. Yet they may be well aware that transferring to another, possibly better-paid job might be expensive because of a deterioration in pension prospects. The case for granting everyone, and not just the self-employed, the choice of having his own portable pension is compelling and should be considered very seriously by the Government.

A WHOLE WORLD IN HIS HANDS

It is unusual in our musical life that a series of piano recitals should attract particular attention. Recitals come and go, and unless there is a Callas to draw the crowds, we tend to pay more attention to the new operatic productions, ballet premieres or symphony concerts with star conductors, for these are heavily publicized and widely discussed.

But Alfred Brendel's recitals of the complete Beethoven Piano Sonatas, which began earlier this season and ended last night at the Queen Elizabeth Hall in London, have made a unique impression. It may be illusory, but it seems as if the intellectual musical life of the city has been concentrated for a brief span into this re-creation of Beethoven's exploration of the human condition. We have observed famous poets, writers, administrators, historians, as well as musicians, critics and musical

analysts at these concerts. In the midst of rapt capacity audiences, their presence is doubtless of small comfort to the hundreds of music-lovers turned away, but the air of intense expectation has been unmistakable.

Brendel has rewarded that expectation with a completeness that few pianists of today can approach. It is not that his touch is finer, the sounds he produces more beautiful, or his pedalling more subtle than that of other pianists: indeed on all these counts he could be surpassed. But his grasp of the issues at stake in the music is incomparable.

Under Brendel's hands, a Beethovenian modulation can suddenly have something of the startling effect it must have created nearly two centuries ago. That is no accident: it takes an

analyst as original as Brendel to work out why a surprise is surprising, and a pianist as skilful as Brendel to re-create precisely the context in which our ears – sullied by the far more flamboyant surprises of a Berlioz or a Wagner – can recapture the full force of Beethoven's originality.

Brendel could not achieve this if he were only an intellectual: the emotional response is fundamental. Time and again in this series, it has been Beethoven's continuing originality that has struck our ears. The extraordinary, at times almost incoherent musical language of his late piano sonatas has become translated, through Brendel's supreme imagination, into a document of intelligible experience. Such an achievement should give a massive hope for the future understanding of music which now baffles or repels us.

CABs and politics

From the Chairman of the Greater London Citizens Advice Bureaux Service

Sir, I welcome John Ross's letter of April 20 about the Citizens' Advice Bureaux, in which he stated that he would hate to see our organisation smeared or denigrated and in which he praised the devoted work of advisers at the local level.

Unfortunately he then went on to denigrate and smear those of us who run the Greater London service by accusing us of making the CAB a campaigning organisation and turning it into a vehicle for political evangelism. Nothing could be further from the truth.

CABs have a long history of using the vast experience we gain from our clients to inform government of the effects of legislation and to suggest changes. This is done in a respon-

sible manner. We in London, in the last two years, have submitted detailed reports based on bureaux' day-to-day experience to the ministers of housing, energy, home affairs and social security on a number of matters.

We have always been thanked for our information and comments and carefully listened to. In some instances we have been asked to provide further information. In no instance has it been suggested that we were acting improperly.

John Ross argues that dedication to the client should be paramount. I agree. The major drive of our work in London will always be advising the individual clients who come to bureaux. There are nearly one million a year of them in London. But we are acting in these clients' best interests if we do not feed back their experiences to government and suggest changes that would benefit

them? We would be wasting public money if we did not do so.

Yours faithfully,
SUSAN MARSDEN-SMEDLEY,
Chairman, Greater London Citizens Advice Bureaux Service,
30 Wellington Street, WC2.

Eating squirrels

From Mrs Valerie Dagger

Sir, Professor Hower (April 23) is not alone in his appreciation of the meat of the squirrel. Last summer, in the Aveyron department of France, our former friend M. Alaux, assured us that the squirrel is *la plus fine des viandes*. He held guinea pigs also in high esteem and reared them expressly for the table. It appears that they are difficult to skin, but worth the trouble.

Yours faithfully,
VALERIE DAGGER,
Greystones, Wrotham, Sevenoaks, Kent.

Education outside the system

From Mr Peter Mason

Sir, I fear your second leader of April 23 mistakes both the intention and the argument of my booklet on private education in the EEC. The aim of the booklet is primarily descriptive, and the introduction draws attention to some of the main differences in the development of education in the UK and the rest of Europe as a warning against facile comparisons of size or pattern between systems which have developed on different lines. It highlights in particular those which concern the role and status of church schools.

As your leader points out, my statistics show clearly that in Europe there is a preponderance of confessional schools in the private sectors of education. There is no doubt that the protection of freedom and choice written into the constitutions of the countries concerned owes much to their influence and authority.

It is no less true, however, as the country studies show, that more recently the confessional schools in most European countries have attracted increasing numbers of parents who are not deeply committed to a particular faith but see in the schools a kind of disciplined education they prefer; that at the same time there has been a marked growth of day schools, many of them committed to philosophies of education like those of Steiner, Montessori and Decroly and loosely described as "free schools"; and that these, like the confessional schools, are open to children from all kinds of home background with the help of subsidy from public funds.

There is common agreement in most EEC countries that a healthy private sector, encouraged by subsidies designed to prevent social discrimination, is an essential factor in the preservation of freedom and diversity in what are increasingly pluralistic societies. Denmark is a shining example of how this may be achieved by liberal legislation liberally administered and supported by popular consent, and her system demonstrates that support from state funds need not imply significant loss of autonomy. I would argue that here is something we in Great Britain cannot afford to ignore.

Yours faithfully,
PETER MASON,
Independent Schools Information Service,
National Research Project,
Leamington,
Longborough,
Moreton-in-Marsh,
Gloucestershire,
April 24.

Lesson of the 1930s

From Professor H B Rose

Sir, As Professor Lord Kaldor (April 21) well knows, the effects of protection are not confined to substitution against imports in the protected industries. Steel users were put at a disadvantage, and Britain's share of exports in general fell outside the area of Imperial Preference and bilateral agreements. Even after the Ottawa Conference in 1932 only 8 per cent of Britain's imports were subject to duties of over 20 per cent, and on average Britain's tariffs are usually held to have been lighter than those of other countries whose total output recovered less rapidly. (The increase in the steel tariff to 50 per cent in 1935, to which Lord Kaldor refers, was only temporary, a bargaining weapon used against the European steel cartel.)

The basic point originally made by Mr Butt (feature, March 17) was that the upturn arose largely in the domestic economy and in the private sector before rearmament. Exports fell more than imports, and after 1930 Britain had a current account surplus only in 1935; but that was merely a quarter of the 1929 figure.

Even if our balance of payments would have been a little worse but for protection, Mr Butt's point still stands.

Yours faithfully,
HAROLD ROSE
Group Economic Adviser,
Barclays Bank plc,
84 Lombard Street, EC3.

Message of 'Gandhi'

From Major J. P. McKee

Sir, The film is not for me. I prefer my memories of those Lucknow patrols during Gandhi's civil disobedience campaign. 115F or more in the shade (if one found any). I knew the Mahatma well enough. He brought on more prickly heat than did anyone else in those, now, far off days.

Yours sincerely,
J. P. MCKEE,
4 Red Oak Close,
Orpington,
Kent,
April 20.

Aid to Third World

From Professor Angelos Angelopoulos

Sir, If the "aid" granted to and the "debts" incurred by the poor countries do not improve the standard of life of their peoples, as Professors Peter Bauer and Basil Yamey stated in *The Times* (feature, April 11), the blame does not belong only to the Third World countries. Certainly there is some irrational utilization and waste of this capital, but the main cause is the financing procedure.

From the existing foreign debt of the developing countries, which at the end of 1982 amounted, according to OECD, to \$626bn, 70 per cent of this amount represents private debts and \$400bn are debts to the banks. The impossibly high annual service, which amounted for 1982 to \$131bn, is due to the fact that the maturity of the loans is only seven to eight years and so the amortiza-

Hitler diaries: the rights and wrongs

From Mr James Mitchell

Sir, *Times* Newspapers are absolutely right in their decision to postpone further publication of the supposed Hitler diaries pending further proofs of authenticity.

Having myself become involved as a young editor in the Thomson Group's urgent attempt 15 years ago to test the authenticity of the then purported Mussolini diaries prior to publication, I know just how agonising and confusing such publishing decisions can be in the heady and tempting atmosphere of a possible scoop of a lifetime.

The first reaction is disbelief: then there is the overwhelming temptation to believe against all the odds, both by scholarly advisers and publishing management. But in the end authenticity, together with the best of historical value, must be the deciding factors. I cannot see that Lord Dacre or *Times* Newspapers can be held to blame for having put much of a foot wrong so far.

Although I believe the Chief Rabbi (April 26) is right – the test of the diaries' historical contribution is a deeper issue than that of their authenticity, and the content that we have so far been privileged to read is indeed dismal and uneventful stuff – I would urge the board of *Times* Newspapers not to overreact to his somewhat intemperate attack. They should look beneath his anger and invective (justified though he may surely be) at his crucial point: what do these new Hitler diaries, even if true, really contribute new to humanity or to knowledge?

There was nothing new in the trivial Mussolini forgeries. If there is anything genuinely new in the Hitler resource, then let this be sifted out by scholars, shorn of its drivel and abuse, and condensed into one short article or short book for popular international publication.

Then let a photocopy of the originals be kept by the West German Government for scholars to consult. And after that let the originals be burnt. As a bookburner himself, Hitler should regard that as the fairest of fair treatments. Ashes are the ultimate answer.

Yours faithfully,
JAMES MITCHELL, Chairman,
The Mitchell Beazley Group,
1 Mill House,
87-89 Shaftesbury Avenue, W1,
April 26.

From Mr Roger Gray, QC

Sir, The Chief Rabbi protests too much.

In the authenticity or otherwise of the Hitler diaries, we are not concerned with good or evil, except in the lessons to be learnt from men's activities over the centuries. Historical truth is the only yardstick by which we can judge our forebears and seek to develop our future.

It is quite ridiculous to suggest that in the case of one madman who exterminated Jews, we should try to prevent research into his motives or actions.

Breath-test doubts

From Mr K. Borer

Sir, As an independent forensic scientist, I note with some concern that the new breath-testing machines are in principle scientifically unsound in that the analytical sample is taken from the body through the same orifice as alcohol has gone in. These machines are being used to test for microgram amounts of alcohol in the breath when gram quantities of alcohol have been taken through the mouth in the recent past.

Under the old system of blood or urine samples to back up the breathalyzer this problem was not as serious. With the new system, defendants must rely entirely on the minimum 20-minute wait between the last drink and first police test being long enough. My experience is that this period is not long enough always to be reliable. However,

A woman's place

From Dr Elizabeth Vallance and others

Sir, Bernard Levin has a long and distinguished record as the champion of equal rights and fair play and the enemy of irrational prejudice and discrimination. It is therefore no surprise to read his vigorous attack (April 13) upon "illogical and unfair" discrimination against women parliamentary candidates simply because they are women. But it is a pity that he begins by trivialising the issue by throwing pillows at "the ladies of The 300 Group". He thus obscures the central and lamentable fact that only three per cent of the members of the Commons are women: the lowest proportion of any democratic legislature in the western world.

The 300 Group (which is all-party and includes men as well as women) exists to change that statistic so that women as well as men become fairly represented in the nation's elected Parliament. We do not seek literal or mathematical equality, nor any fixed

quotas of women MPs. Our objective is that qualified candidates of both sexes should be selected and elected.

It is not necessary that an MP should be a woman in order to represent the interests of the 52 per cent of the electorate who are women. But it is very important that the Commons should cease to be so overwhelmingly male by gender, attitude and experience.

The 300 Group attempts to persuade people to abandon outmoded prejudices against women candidates. We also train and support women so that they may occupy their rightful place in the political life of this country. We welcome Mr Levin and your readers to the campaign for this fundamental principle of a just and democratic society.

Yours faithfully,
ELIZABETH VALLANCE,
ANTONY LESTER,
LISANNE RADICE,
The 300 Group,
48 Bryanston Square, W1,
April 15.

The amounts economized by the developing countries through the postponement should be utilized for productive projects and the necessary goods and services should be bought from the creditor countries.

By this arrangement the banks will not incur any loss and will avoid collapse. The developing countries will be relieved in their budgets. A new effective demand will be created by the developing countries, which could induce new investments and create new jobs in the industrial countries.

If this postponement could be combined with a new long-term financing, as I have proposed elsewhere, the beginning of the recovery of the activity of the world economy could be assured.

Yours etc,
ANGELOS ANGELOPOULOS,
32 Rue Parthenonos (402),
Athens,
Greece,
April 18.

Odd spot-checks at Holyhead

From Miss Dervla Murphy

Sir, On the afternoon of Sunday, April 17, I was stopped in the customs shed at Holyhead by a young woman in plain clothes who explained: "This is a security check under the Prevention of Terrorism Act." As proof of identification I produced my AIB bankers' card, my RGS fellow's card, my *An Taoiseach* member's card and my HTD outpatient's card.

Next, I stated the purpose of my visit to the UK – to get my new book off to the printer – and listed the six English friends with whom I had stayed: all, as it happens, of mind-boggling respectability.

The young woman then spent 20 minutes scrutinizing my luggage, which (apart from a pair of pyjamas) consisted entirely of books, maps, TSS, learned journals, anti-nuclear leaflets and magazines, personal letters and sundry documents including bank statements.

I was the only person to be checked that afternoon, though hundreds of passengers, including scores of hairy young men, were boarding the Dun Laoghaire ferry, some of them looking much more likely targets for PTA vigilance than an elderly female, grey and lined and bowed beneath the weight of printed matter.

Of course it's reassuring to know that such spot-checks are made: and the young woman was polite and chatty and we ended up the best of friends. She did, however, read a few of my personal letters and she carefully studied my bank statements. (I hope the computer's arcane outpourings were clearer to her than they are to me.)

As I lead a very humdrum life, both personally and financially, I have in fact no objection to the general public reading my letters and bank statements. But it did occur to me that there must be many other equally law-abiding citizens who would object, for valid reasons, to such an intrusion into their private lives.

When eventually I boarded the ferry – the gangplank had to be replaced to allow me on – I got into conversation with an elderly Englishwoman to whom I expressed my puzzlement at having been singled out for PTA attention. She said, "You're wearing three anti-nuclear badges. I've learnt to take mine off, just to save time, when passing these security checks."

Then I saw the joke. If one is opposed on ethical grounds to the nuclear deterrent – the ultimate form of terrorism – one may be suspected of subversion by those who operate the Prevention of Terrorism Act. Mankind is surely in a muddle like it never was before.

Yours etc,
DERVLA MURPHY,
The Old Market,
Lismore,
co Waterford,
Republic of Ireland.

Post-coital pill

From Dr J. M. Finnis

Sir, Why, asks Glasville Williams (April 13), did "Parliament in 1803 choose the word 'miscarriage' instead of 'abortion' and to the exclusion of 'abortion'?"

The answer is simple. Parliament didn't. The opening words of section 2 of that Act speak of "miscarriage or abortion", obviously as synonyms. And in the debate on section 1, which employs only the word "miscarriage", the Bill's draftsman and sponsor, Lord Ellenborough, consistently used the word "abortion", to identify the forbidden act.

If a man administers a "post-coital pill", disguised as something else, to the woman he fears is pregnant with his child, conceived last weekend, can anyone other than Professor Williams and Mr Kennedy doubt that he commits an offence under the law established (at least) in 1803 and left untouched in 1967?

Mr Kennedy (April 11) calls for a test case, as was reported some weeks ago, the responsible public officers are being pressed to act now to uphold the law.

Yours faithfully,
J. M. FINNIS,
University College,
Oxford,
April 17.

Buying British

From Mr Victor Serebriakoff

Sir, Your correspondent (April 15) implies regret that he cannot buy a British-made dishwasher.

We joined the Common Market to participate in a larger economic group. Instead of protecting the small-scale, inefficient and therefore uncompetitive production of the whole range of things we need, we hoped in the larger market, with economies of scale, to concentrate on the efficient, competitive production of what we are good at and have the benefit of wider choice among things we are bad at.

We have done well. Britain's exports represent a higher proportion of gnp than those of any other country, but it is not sensible to hope that we can win them all.

Yours faithfully
VICTOR SEREBRIAKOFF
Flat 1,
6 The Paragon, SE3,
April 15.

Endangered species?

From Mr Michael Cudlipp

Sir, Lord Cudlipp (April 22) is surely correct to regard the fact of six editors of the *Daily Express* within six years as an endangered species.

I recall nine editors of the *Sunday Graphic* within 11 years. Not only are they no more, but neither is it.

Yours sincerely,
MICHAEL CUDLIPP,
4 Stratford Place, W1,
April 26.

Investment and Finance

City Editor
Anthony Hilton

THE TIMES

City Office
200 Gray's Inn Road
London WC1X 8EZ
Telephone 01-837 1234

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index: 699.0 up 3.8
FT 100: 81.80 down 0.11
FT All Share: 441.51 up 1.97
Bargains: 23,982
Tring Hall USM Index: 172 up 0.5
Tokyo: 8634.79 up 27.32
Hongkong: 1033.76 up 5.47
New York: Dow Jones Average (latest) 1218.56 up 9.10

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE
Sterling \$1.5660 down 70pts
Sterling £4.2 down 0.4
DM 3.84
FF 11.4975
Yen 370.75
Dollar
Index 122.5 unchanged
DM 2.4520 up 10pts
Gold
\$431.50 down \$4.50
NEW YORK LATEST
Gold \$434.25
Sterling \$1.5675

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
Base rates 10
3 month interbank 10 1/4-10 1/2
Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar 8 1/4-8 1/2
3 month DM 5 1/4-5 1/2
3 month 1 1/2-1 1/2
ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling
Export Finance Scheme IV
Average reference rate for
interest period March 2 to April 5, 1983 inclusive: 10.974 per cent.

PRICE CHANGES

Solicitors' Law 27p up 4p
Goal Petroleum 78p up 10p
Carpets Int 62p up 6.5p
Staffs Potts 45p up 4p
J Neill 34p up 3p
Gestetner "A" 39p up 3p
U C Invest £14.50 down £1.75
Centreway Ind 43p down 5p
B S G Int 13.5p down 1p
Carless Capel 209p down 15p
CIA 270p down 18p
Atlantic Res. 90p down 5p

TODAY

Interims: Audio Fidelity, Hawkins and Tipson, Hoover (Quarterly report), ICI (1st qtr), Pochin's, S Simpson.
Finals: Aero Needles, Blue Circle, Davies and Newman, Downbros, Farnell Electronics, John Laing, Office and Electronic Machines, Slentnight, Whatman Reeve Angel, George Wimpey, Wire and Plastic Products.
Economic statistics: Energy Trends (Feb), Overseas travel and tourism (Jan/Feb), Unemployment and unemployment vacancies (March final), Employment in the production industries (Feb), Overtime and short-time working in manufacturing industries (Feb).

Call for US steel quotas

The US International Trade Commission yesterday urged President Reagan to impose steel import quotas on four different types of specialty steel products, which it said caused substantial injury to the domestic steel industry.

If adopted, the three-year quotas would affect all imported alloy tool steel, stainless steel bars and wire rods, stainless steel sheet and strip and stainless steel plate from all countries.

Although Britain does not export a large quantity of specialty steel to the US other European countries would be seriously affected by the imposition of such quotas.

● **TELERATE LISTING:** A London listing for Telerate, the computerized financial information service, is a possibility once the 10 per cent of shares now traded on the United States market is increased.

Exco now owns 49 per cent of Telerate after yesterday's United States flotation of 10 per cent of the shares, compared with 54 per cent before.

● **BANKS MEET:** About 20 banks met in London yesterday at a meeting hosted by Barclays to discuss Nigeria's debt problems. Nigeria is in arrears on about \$5,000m of short-term debts and proposals have already been put to banks on consolidating short-term debt into a medium term loan.

● **FIRM CRITICIZED:** Peat Marwick Mitchell, the accountancy firm, was criticized yesterday for lapses in the quality of the performance of its work, by a committee of inquiry of the accountants' joint disciplinary scheme.

● **WRITE-OFF BLOW:** Getty Oil Company said a \$14m (£9m) after tax write off of its investment in Northern Tier Pipeline Company adversely affected first quarter results.

Wall St in heavy early trading

New York - Wall Street extended its record-shattering rally broadly higher in the third busiest first hour in history.

But some analysts said profit taking became a factor after the initial surge of buying that was a carryover from Tuesday's torrid last hour.

The Dow Jones industrial average was ahead 2.81 to 1,212.17 in the morning after being up four at the outset.

The NYSE index was ahead 0.26 to 93.09 and the price of an average share was up 10 cents. Advances led declines 335-432 among the 1,765 issues crossing the tape.

The first hour volume of about 41,320,000 shares - up from the 21,330,000 traded during the same period Tuesday.

The ticket ran 10 minutes late in the early going as scores of block trades were recorded, indicating large institutional investors were extremely active.

Raise-purina was the most active issue, which was unchanged at 22 1/4. Mobil Corp was second up 1/4 to 29 1/4 and Exxon followed up 1/4 to 34 1/4.

● **US interest rates** will bottom out between now and summer, then gradually rise over the next three years, as congress lacks the will to reduce US budget deficits, Mr James Howell, senior vice-president and chief economist of First National Bank of Boston, said yesterday.

He told a press conference that the prime rate will remain five to six percentage points above the inflation rate for the next three to five years and forecast average consumer price inflation of five per cent in 1983, six per cent in 1984 and seven to eight per cent in 1985.

Britain and US hold Laker talks

From Bailey Morris, Washington

British Government officials have arrived in Washington for talks with the Reagan Administration on a transatlantic airlines investigation sparked by charges made by Sir Freddie Laker.

The British team, led by Mr Handley Stevens, Undersecretary at the Department of Trade, is meeting officials of the US State Department to discuss whether US antitrust laws can be applied to British carriers.

A provision of the air service agreement signed by the two countries provides for a high level of consultation whenever serious problems arise between the two governments, an embassy official said.

The investigation by the US Justice Department into charges by Sir Freddie Laker that seven leading airlines - including British Airways and British Caledonian - conspired to drive him out of business has been opposed by the British Government.

Diplomatic sources in Washington said the Laker investigation is straining Anglo-American relations because it involves the same extrajudicial concerns which arose during the Soviet gas pipeline dispute.

Although the Justice Department has refused to comment publicly on the case, its unannounced criminal investigation could lead to charges and financial assessments against British assets in the United States.

At a meeting last month, officials of the two governments were unable to resolve the increasingly hostile dispute, but they agreed to meet again this month, a British Embassy spokesman said.

Call for transferable pensions

By Our Financial Staff

All employees, including those now covered by occupational pension schemes, should have the chance to save for retirement in their own right, according to a memorandum published yesterday by the Centre for Policy Studies.

They should be free to opt out of company schemes and have their own transferable pension entitlements. The memorandum, proposes that everyone in work should be able to save through approved segregated S226-type funds.

The effect of allowing employees to have pensions in their own name, rather than belonging to a company

Jaguar and Unipart most likely to be sold

BL privatization could begin next year, MPs are told

By Andrew Cornelijs

Privatization of BL, the state-owned car company, could be set in motion as early as next year chairman, Sir Austin Bide, told MPs yesterday.

Answering questions from the House of Commons Select Committee on Industry and Trade, Sir Austin said that BL, return to the private sector would probably take place in stages possibly beginning next year.

BL officials refused to concede that the group looks set to "cream off" its profitable divisions leaving the taxpayer to support loss-making areas while Sir Austin would not admit that some areas of the business are beyond recovery.

However, he indicated that the Austin-Rover group and the Leyland Vehicles bus and truck division were the biggest losers in the group while Jaguar and the Unipart car spares business were profit earners.

Sir Austin said that despite the

recently ended four-week strike at Cowley he was prepared to stand by earlier forecasts that the group would break even this year and that it was aiming for pre-tax profits next year.

With the exception of the Cowley dispute which has cost BL between £70m and £80m in lost revenue from sales of cars with a showroom value of £120m, it has enjoyed an impressive start to the 1983 trading year.

First quarter sales to France were up by 43 per cent compared with a year ago, while sales to West Germany rose by 19 per cent and sales to Eire by 17 per cent. Much of the sales success was due to the overseas launch of the Metro, but demand for the newly launched Maestro saloon car has also exceeded expectations.

Mr Ray Horrocks, chief executive of BL Cars, told the Commons Committee that BL was looking for a near 20 per cent share of the United Kingdom market this year



Mr Ray Horrocks (left) and Sir Austin Bide: confident of BL's future

compared with last year's 16 per cent share.

He answered the committee's criticism of BL management in introducing the productivity measures which caused the Cowley strike by claiming the decision to introduce the new measures was critical.

"We are competing in very tough markets", he said. "We have to produce value for money. Part of the issue is about that."

Speaking after the committee meeting, Mr Horrocks said that a final decision on the proposed £100m investment in the development in collaboration with Honda of an executive car,

codenamed Project XX, would depend on negotiations over productivity with Cowley unions.

The board of the Austin-Rover group meets next Tuesday to decide whether the car should be built at Cowley, or at the Longbridge plant in Birmingham.

● Despite the popular view that there is no such person as a poor car salesman, Britain's retail motor industry experienced one of its worst years in history in 1982 with a record number of bankruptcies and liquidations.

The annual report of the Motor Agents Association, which represents the majority of the country's respectable garages, reveals that 1,500 members went out of business.

Petrol retailers also suffered from the poor state of the economy and while car sales last year exceeded expectations, 652 filling stations closed bringing total closures in the last decade to almost 9,000.

City Comment

Dollars and nonsense

It sounds like the ultimate pre-summit platitudes, when Sir Geoffrey Howe talks about the need to reinforce nations' understanding of the way their economic policies affect each other. But anyone privy to Mr Martin Feldstein's remarks in Paris yesterday about the dollar would rapidly realise that there is a big job of education to be done.

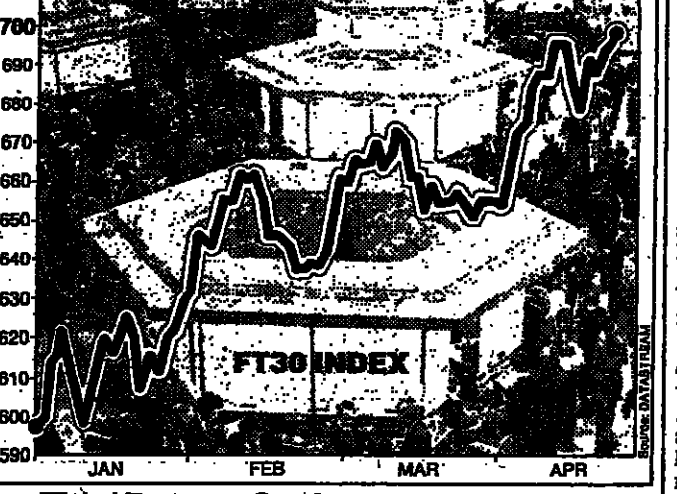
While Europe and the Far East wait on about the baleful effects on them of the present high dollar Mr Feldstein analyses the question purely in terms of US self-interest. This is particularly disturbing as he is chairman of President Reagan's council of economic advisers.

Far from being disturbed about the high dollar, Mr Feldstein claims that it performs a useful function for his country by sucking in funds from abroad to bolster capital investment in his economy and prevent the Federal government's enormous budget deficit from crowding out the US private sector. It does not, apparently, occur to him that this merely distorts the economies of his allies, which must suffer higher interest rates.

It should be said that Mr Feldstein is a trenchant critic of the deficit. But given this his main regret is that the process has not gone far enough.

His conclusion, not surprisingly, is that "the US Government should not pursue exchange rate policies aimed at lowering the dollar's value". How far this is unneighbourly isolationism and how far it is merely a justification for laissez-faire prejudice is a moot point.

Certainly, Mr Feldstein still clings to the fallacy that foreign exchange speculators are always right in aggregate. So it is meaningless to talk of an over or under-valued currency. This is O-Level economics from a professor who should know better.



Index fails to stay above 700 mark

By Michael Clark

Share prices burst through the important 700 mark yesterday, but failed to hold their best levels with the FT index ending the day only 3.8 up at a record 699.0.

The overnight strength on Wall Street, where the Dow Jones Average rose above the 1200 level, and the CBI's forecast of a gradual recovery from the recession set the scene

as share prices opened sharply higher.

Dealers reported selective support for leading shares by the big City institutions, but with conditions described as volatile profit taking soon developed.

Government securities recovered from a dull start to close with rises of up to 25p.

Market report, page 24

RTZ cuts stake in CRA

By Sally White

CRA, the Australian mining and metals group, has made its long-awaited rights issue to raise a \$206m (about £110m). This is one of the largest rights issues in the Australian market.

Rio Tinto-Zinc in using the opportunity of the rights issue to reduce its shareholding from 57.2 per cent to 52.9 per cent and is seeking some of its holding. But it has surprised the market by not taking the stake down to the 49 per cent level it has undertaken to the Australian Government to reach over time. While CRA remains a subsidiary, the RTZ balance-sheet is burdened with its debt.

The terms of the issue of 54.4m shares at A\$3.80 are one for every eight held. The price is more than A\$1 below the market price. RTZ is reducing its stake, it is renouncing 9.8m of the shares to which it is entitled, and there will be a non-renounceable issue of one for 18 to place them.

At the close of trading the London quoted price for CRA was down 18p at 270p.

£150,000 to settle Hedderwick costs

By Jonathan Clare

The long and acrimonious dispute about responsibilities to clients that followed the "hammering" of Hedderwick Stirling Grumbar in April 1981 has been at least partly resolved. The partners of Quilter Goodson, the firm of Sir Nicholas Goodson, the Stock Exchange chairman, and Mr Martin Fidler, the liquidator of Hedderwick, have agreed a settlement which will mean neither side making claims against the other.

Hedderwick was hammered

on the day it was due to merge with Quilter. Quilter responded to Hedderwick's request, made when it defaulted, to look after some of the firm's clients. But Mr Fidler and the shareholders of Hedderwick had already incurred heavy costs in looking after the clients subsequently taken on board by Quilter. Mr Fidler has now accepted a payment of £150,000 from Quilter as a settlement of those costs and will not be making any claim against Quilter.

Sotheby's under hammer

By Our Financial Staff

Mr Stephen Swid and Mr Marshall Cogan were last night poised to win control of Sotheby Parke Bernet, barring a last-minute intervention by the Government.

Representatives of the Americans' financial advisers, Morgan Grenfell, met Sir Gordon Borrie of the Office of Fair Trading yesterday in a final effort to prevent a reference of the £60m bid to the Monopolies Commission.

through the stock market next Wednesday. Market sources say they will have no difficulty in purchasing the extra 20 per cent needed for control.

'Confidence brings results'

This statement was made last week by Mr R. W. Pettitt, Chairman of Minet Holdings PLC, as he announced record 1982 profits.

Turnover up 20 per cent	
1982	1981
£55.4 million	£46.1 million
Trading profit up 21 per cent	
1982	1981
£17.8 million	£14.8 million
Dividend up 20 per cent	
1982	1981
4.55 p	3.80 p

Our international resource of skills and activities gives us every reason to look to the future with great confidence. Minet represents an entirely new dimension in confidence - for our shareholders, clients and employees alike.



Banks to be offered 'fraud-proof' system

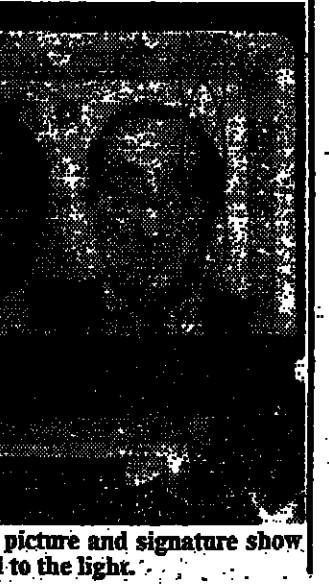
Card with a double check

By Peter Wilson-Smith, Banking Correspondent

A new type of plastic card has been developed by Trapinex, a subsidiary of the printing group McCormac, which it believes holds the answer to the £30m-a-year fraud problem suffered by the clearing banks.

Called the Gemini card, it is the latest of several new cards developed recently by different manufacturers. It includes a duplicate photograph and signature bonded beneath the surface of the card and Trapinex believes it is virtually impossible to alter.

The big banks are losing £20m a year of cheque card fraud alone and the Committee of London Clearing Bankers has a working party set up which is examining the problem



The Gemini card: The duplicate picture and signature show as the card is held to the light.

Copies of this Prospectus, having attached thereto the documents referred to in paragraph 13(c) of Appendix III, have been delivered to the Registrar of Companies for registration.

This Prospectus contains particulars given to comply with the regulations of the Council of The Stock Exchange for the purpose of giving information with regard to Boase Massimi Pollitt plc ("the Company"). The Directors have taken all reasonable care to ensure that the facts stated herein are true and accurate in all material respects and that there are no other material facts the omission of which would make misleading any statement herein whether of fact or of opinion. All the Directors accept responsibility accordingly.

Application has been made to the Council of The Stock Exchange for the whole of the share capital of the Company, issued and now being issued, to be admitted to the Official List.

BOASE MASSIMI POLLITT plc

(Incorporated in England under the Companies Acts 1948 to 1976 with Registered No. 1468528)

OFFER FOR SALE BY TENDER

BY

MORGAN GRENFELL & CO. LIMITED

of 1,514,081 Ordinary Shares of 25p each
at a minimum tender price of 280p per Share,
the price tendered being payable in full on application

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION

The information below should be read in conjunction with the full text of this Prospectus from which it is derived.

Boase Massimi Pollitt is an advertising agency serving client companies largely in the fields of consumer goods and services. It started in 1968 and by organic growth is now approaching the top ten biggest agencies, in terms of billings, in the United Kingdom.

Billings and Profits

YEAR TO 31ST DECEMBER	BILLINGS	PROFIT/LOSS BEFORE TAX*	PROFIT/LOSS AFTER TAX*	EARNINGS PER SHARE*
	£000	£000	£000	p
1978	16,214	250	172	2.91
1979	23,107	277	277	—
1980	30,023	135	91	1.21
1981	32,695	225	135	2.80
1982	36,359	790	312	6.56
1983 (forecast)	—	1,350	608	11.79

Offer for Sale Statistics
Based on the minimum tender price of 280p per Share

Number of Ordinary Shares of 25p each in issue	5,152,507
Market capitalisation	£14.4m
Earnings per Share (based on 5,152,507 Shares) - for the year ended 31st December, 1982	6.06p
- forecast for the year ending 31st December, 1983	11.79p
Price earnings multiple - - historic	46.2x
- forecast	23.7x
Net annual dividend per Share - - forecast for the year ending 31st December, 1983	4.5p
Gross dividend yield	2.3%

*before extraordinary items and amortisation of goodwill.

For the bases on which earnings per Share have been calculated for the five years ended 31st December, 1982, see Note 5 to the Historical Cost Statement of Consolidated Profit and Loss in Appendix II. For the year ended 31st December, 1983, a tax rate of 55 per cent. has been assumed.

† see also "Growth in billings and profits" in the letter from the Chairman of the Company set out below.

CREATIVE AWARDS 1980-83

Cannes Film Festival	Hollywood Radio & Television Awards
3 Gold Lions 3 Silver Lions	3 Bronze Lions 1 Diploma 6 Certificates
British Television Advertising Awards	Irish Advertising Awards
2 ITV Awards 3 Best Series Awards 11 Gold Arrows	10 Silver Arrows 8 Bronze Arrows 8 Diplomas
Design & Art Directors' Association Award	International Film & TV Festival of New York
1 Gold Award 5 Silver Awards	1 Gold Award

SHARE CAPITAL

Authorised	Issued and now being issued fully paid
£1,500,000	£1,288,126.75
Ordinary Shares of 25p each	

The Shares now offered for sale rank in full for all dividends hereafter paid on the share capital of the Company.

The application list for the Shares now offered for sale will open at 10.00 a.m. on 4th May, 1983 and may be closed at any time thereafter. The procedure for application together with an application form is set out at the end of this Prospectus.

INDEBTEDNESS

At the close of business on 14th April, 1983 the Company and its subsidiaries (in this document referred to as "the Group") had outstanding in aggregate £4,551 by way of secured bank overdraft, £379,759 of secured loan stock, including interest, and £423,662 under finance leases. Save as aforesaid and apart from intra-Group indebtedness and guarantees, at the close of business on 14th April, 1983 no company in the Group had any loan capital (including term-loans) outstanding or created but unissued, or any outstanding mortgages, charges, borrowings or indebtedness in the nature of borrowing, including bank overdrafts and liabilities under acceptances (other than normal trade bills) or acceptance credits, hire-purchase commitments, guarantees or other material contingent liabilities. At the close of business on 14th April, 1983 the Group had aggregate cash balances of £833,693.

CLIENTS

CADBURY SCHWEPES Smash Instant Pesto Kia-Ora Squash Cris-Cross	CENTRAL OFFICE OF INFORMATION Fire Prevention Crime Prevention Police Recruitment	BRITISH TELECOM Praxair
COURAGE J. C. Draught Courage Best Bitter John Smith's Yorkshire Bitter John Smith's Lager Hofmeister Lager	MANPOWER SERVICES COMMISSION Training Services	TOYOTA Cars and Vans
UNICATE Price Yogurt St Ivel Real Fruit Juice St Ivel Cheese Crispy Milk Fayre's Wife Products Unigate Milk St Ivel Cream	QUAKER Sugar Puffs Harvest Crunch Warm Start Golden Oaties Scots Porridge Oats Pet Foods	ANGELIA TV Promotion of Advertising Sales
JOHNSON & JOHNSON Band Aid J. Cloths Carefree Baby Products Assure KY Jelly	UNITED BISCUITS Marco & Carlo Frozen Foods King Harry Pizzas BIRNIE ALCAN Bacofill	SONY (UK) Tapes Rental
SACCHONE & SPEED Southern Comfort Black Tower Wine Jack Daniel's Whiskey Green Gold Wine CPC(UK) Masala Corn Oil Hellmann's Mayonnaise Kobayashi & Sauces Brown & Poison	TIJDERBOOM Holidays RECKITT & COLMAN Diapers Lemip Cleen-O-Pine Frend Deep Fresh BARKER & DOBSON Victory V Hacks Evertown Minis Breezers Dime Bars	FISHER-PRICE Toys and Games ARCYLL FOODS Presto Supermarkets AMOCO New Product Development BRITISH RAIL Freight GILLETTE Right Guard ZB Deodorant Jordan's Toothbrushes Paper-Mate Pens CHANNEL 4 TELEVISION Programme Advertising NARSCO Jacobs Club Trio BUTLINS Holidays NALGO General Advertising

DIRECTORS AND ADVISERS

DIRECTORS	Martin Boase John Brighton Webster David Alfred Bunterbee John Christopher Powell David Sillars Cowan Timothy Charles Cox Geoffrey Douglas Carter Peter Ivan Jones All of 12 Bishop's Bridge Road, London W2 6AA
SECRETARY AND REGISTERED OFFICE	Geoffrey Douglas Carter, 12 Bishop's Bridge Road, London W2 6AA
ISSUING HOUSE	Morgan Grenfell & Co. Limited, 23 Great Winchester Street, London EC2P 2AX
STOCKBROKERS	Rowe & Pitman, City-Gate House, 39-45 Finsbury Square, London EC2A 1JA
AUDITORS AND REPORTING ACCOUNTANTS	Dixon Wilson & Co., Chartered Accountants, Gillett House, 55 Basinghall Street, London EC2V 5EA
SOLICITORS TO THE COMPANY	Macfarlanes, Dowgate Hill House, London EC4R 2SY
SOLICITORS TO THE OFFER FOR SALE	Freshfields, Grindall House, 25 Newgate Street, London EC1A 7LH
PRINCIPAL BANKERS	Barclays Bank PLC, 8/9 Hanover Square, London W1A 4ZW
RECEIVING BANKERS	Barclays Bank PLC, New Issues Department, P.O. Box 123, Fleetway House, 25 Farringdon Street, London EC4A 4HD
REGISTRARS AND TRANSFER OFFICE	Barclays Bank PLC, Registration Department, Radbroke Hall, Knutsford, Cheshire WA16 9EU

ADVERTISING EFFECTIVENESS AWARDS 1980-82

Grand Prix Winner 1982	Consumer Goods - Established 1982
The Big John Campaign - a study of TV advertising in the beer market Client: Courage	First Prize The Big John Campaign - a study of TV advertising in the beer market Client: Courage
Special Category 1982	Consumer Goods & Services - Direct response 1980
First Prize Home Protection - how advertising helps fight crime Client: Central Office of Information	First Prize The Launch of Tjersborg Rejser Client: Tjersborg Rejser

The following is a copy of a letter from Mr. Martin Boase, Chairman of Boase Massimi Pollitt plc

The Directors,
Morgan Grenfell & Co. Limited

27th April, 1983

Dear Sirs,

I am writing to give you the background and history of Boase Massimi Pollitt plc ("the Company").

The Company is a holding company whose task is to manage its principal subsidiary, the advertising agency The Boase Massimi Pollitt Partnership Limited ("BMP") and "the Agency".

The Agency plans, conceives and executes advertising for companies mostly in the field of consumer goods and services. Over 70 per cent. of BMP's operating income comes from commission earned on buying advertising space and time for its clients. The rest of its income is received in the form of fees for producing press and TV advertisements and various other marketing and advertising services. In 1982 two thirds of the Agency's media billings were in television.

Our achievement since the Agency began in 1968 has been organic growth in billings, without acquisition, from £800,000 in our first year to £36.4 million in 1982. Our success has come through a new approach to the production of effective advertising; this has combined the pioneering of a new agency structure with a clearly-defined attitude towards attracting and keeping talented employees based on a belief that a wide spread of shareholding amongst the staff can be a strong motivating force in a service business.

We have always aimed, when a suitable time arrived in the Company's development, to obtain a listing for its Shares. Of a total Group staff of 155, over 70 own Shares in the Company and a substantial part of the Agency Executive Directors' wealth is represented by their shareholdings. The Group has now reached an appropriate size for a listing to be obtained, thus allowing the shareholders to realise part of their wealth and the Company to raise additional funds. The funds raised by the Company will partly be used to repay outstanding loan stock and partly to increase the working capital of the Company and thus help achieve the continuing organic growth we anticipate.

Further, obtaining a public listing will give us better access to capital markets for the purpose of expansion or acquisition although we have no acquisition in mind at the moment. As you will see from the rest of this letter we see organic growth - an increased market share - as our priority in continuing to improve our performance.

I will cover below our history, structure, growth, reputation and prospects ending with our profit and dividend forecast for 1983.

HISTORY

Founded in 1968

The Agency started in 1968 with two advantages. The first was that the members of the founding group, then described in the Sunday Times as the biggest breakthrough this country's advertising industry has ever seen, were already working together for one of the largest American advertising conglomerates. So the group knew each other well and worked well together.

The second, and more important, advantage that BMP enjoyed was that it started with an idea. A point of view. A coherent set of beliefs about advertising.

A practical way of resolving the advertising problem

At the heart of these beliefs lay a conviction that really effective advertising must be both relevant and outstandingly distinctive. We saw a practical way of resolving the problems which so often lead to the twin pitfalls of the brilliantly irrelevant or the blandly sound advertising solutions which agencies were offering their clients. This involved a new agency structure, one that embraced analytical and accurate skills and, in equal measure, initiative and creative talents. It was this structure that was to become the template for a whole generation of new agencies throughout the 1970's and affect the shape of many of those that were already well established.

Perhaps it is for this reason that BMP has been variously described as "one of the most important professional influences on advertising during the past ten years" in the magazine Campaign (in April 1983), as "the flower of British creativity" by Marketing magazine (in April 1983) and was seen by other advertising agencies as "universally admired" in a survey in the Financial Times in January 1981.

THE STRUCTURE

BMP pioneers account planning

The main new element introduced into its structure by BMP was called the account planner. The planner brings not simply research, but also the use of data, into every stage of advertising development as a third partner for the account handler and creative team. As one commentator wrote, planning "represents a more efficient and purposeful use of research and, as several agencies have demonstrated, at its best it can provide a sensitive rationality that aids rather than hinders creativity and expands rather than narrows the options open to the advertiser." (Campaign September 1981).

As important here is the effect of the new structure on the resources of the Agency. The breakdown by function of the salaries of professional employees of the average large agency in 1981 as compared with that of BMP is set out below:

AVERAGE LARGE AGENCY	BOASE MASSIMI POLLITT
MANAGEMENT/ACCOUNT HANDLING 47%	34% MANAGEMENT ACCOUNT HANDLING
MARKET RESEARCH 6%	22% ACCOUNT PLANNING
CREATIVE 30%	29% CREATIVE
MEDIA PLANNING & BUYING 17%	15% MEDIA PLANNING & BUYING

(Source: the Institute of Practitioners in Advertising ("IPA"), "Large Agency" lists names one with more than £20 million billings per annum.)

The main impact is not to affect the resources devoted to creative and media buying functions but to reduce the proportion employed in account handling.

Consistent graduate recruitment/Home-grown management

The recruitment of account planners from among numerate and broadminded graduates has been a pre-occupation of the Agency for the last thirteen years. We have taken on several every year without fail. Some hundreds of man-hours are devoted to the task of graduate recruitment of both planners and account handlers each year. In 1983 over 2 per cent. of all those who expect to graduate from universities in the United Kingdom have applied to BMP for a job. Our policy of consistent recruitment even in difficult economic times has had its reward in that five of the ten new Directors of the Agency appointed since 1978 have never worked anywhere else.

If people are the stuff of any service industry, then BMP has managed consistently to attract new talent from the universities through its reputation, through what it stands for, and also through its attitude towards equity participation.

BOASE MASSIMI POLLITT plc (continued)

SHARE OWNERSHIP

Widely spread staff shareholding

The Company has always believed that one of the ways of attracting and keeping talented people is through share-ownership. We believe we have the most widely spread equity of any substantial unquoted agency in the United Kingdom, taking into account our Group Share Participation Scheme. We also believe we were the first substantial unquoted agency to introduce such a scheme under the provisions of the Finance Act 1978. As I have said, over 70 employees out of a total staff of 155 own Shares in the Company.

High top management stability

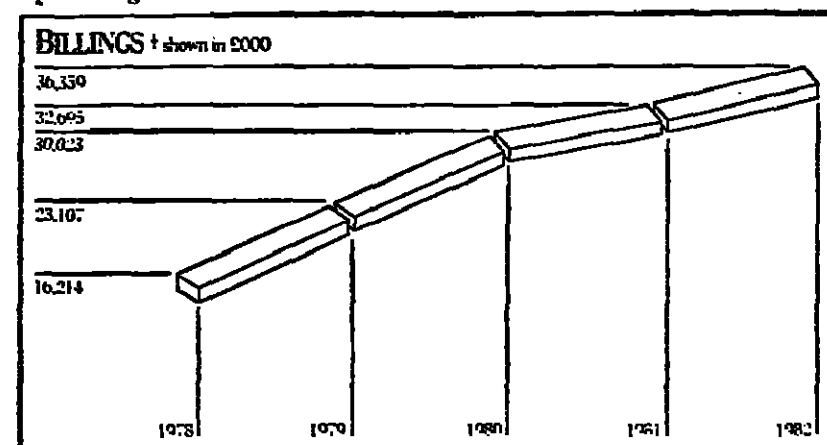
We believe that, in an industry that has a reputation for constant coming and going, our top management stability has been remarkable; all but one of the eight Directors of the Company were with the Agency in 1975.

Having built this structure and recruited and motivated the staff, what success has the Agency achieved?

GROWTH

Here are some of the key features of our growth and the nature of our client list (the full list is printed at the front of this letter): Our billings have increased steadily over the last five years, and, in that period, at over twice the rate of inflation.

Impressive growth



(See description of "Turnover" in Appendix II under Accounting Policies)

Features of client list

□ The client list started from a base of food and drink advertisers with companies such as Cadbury Schweppes, Courage and Unigate, but has since become much more varied with durables, services, and automobile, retail and H.M.I. Government business well represented - we have demonstrated the versatility of our skill.

□ Our largest client represents 13 per cent. of total billings and this is spread over several brands. Here is a breakdown of BMP's currently expected billings by clients for 1983:

BILLINGS	NO OF CLIENTS
£1.0 MILLION	3
£2.0 MILLION	4
£3.0 MILLION	10
LESS THAN £1 MILLION	10

□ Nearly all of BMP's clients are household names. Advertising is central to their businesses and they make sophisticated demands on their agencies.

□ About half our clients have been with BMP for 5 years or more - we have relationships that endure.

□ Many large multi-brand advertisers use more than one agency; two thirds of our clients fall into this category, thus we have had to measure up to constant competitive comparison.

□ More important, two thirds of our multi-brand clients have given us additional brands since they first came to us - the ultimate test of a successful partnership.

□ In recent years growth in billings has come both from entirely new clients and from the additional brands mentioned above - clearly we do not rely simply on our existing client base.

□ Of the 70 or so brands that we handle for our clients, 37 were first advertised through BMP - this is perhaps why, in a survey in the Financial Times in January 1981, competitors saw us as "brand architects, not bricklayers".

If that is the bare bones of our client list and of how we have grown, what of the flesh of our reputation? Where do we lie in the market-place? How do others view us?

REPUTATION

Industry respect

In a poll published in Campaign in June 1980, BMP came top on aggregate when the heads of the largest 75 agencies in the United Kingdom were asked to choose an agency to handle a range of different types and sizes of account:

	AGENCY RATES
1. BOASE MASSIMI POLLITT	49
2. COLLETT DICKINSON PEARCE	41
3. SAATCHI AND SAATCHI	38
4. TBWA	30
5. DAVIDSON PEARCE	27
6. ALLEN BRADY AND MARSH	26
7. J. WALTER THOMPSON	24
8. CECIL CROSS	23
9. ABBOTT MEAD VICKERS SWE	19
10. DARCY MACANUS AND MASUS	18

We know the competition respects us.

Top TV Award winner

In the creative arena the Agency has been a leading award winner. We have won more top awards for our TV work than any other agency in the United Kingdom and Europe over the last ten years. John Webster, our Executive Creative Director, is the only man twice to have won the Grand Prix at the Cannes Advertising Film Festival. BMP has been judged to have produced the best television campaign in the Design and Art Directors Association Awards in six of the last eight years. Its long-running campaigns for Courage and John Smith's beer and Cadbury's Smash Instant Potatoes have been internationally acclaimed.

Top Effectiveness Award winner

Creative pioneering is one thing, but what of results? The IPA, the agency trade association, has recently started to sponsor its Advertising Effectiveness Awards in order to encourage new and better ways of relating advertising to its results. BMP has won four of the ten first prizes so far awarded, including the Grand Prix in 1982; no other agency has matched this performance.

'Brilliance and results'

Campaign, while noting that certain agencies won creative awards and others the Advertising Effectiveness Awards, concluded in February 1982 that BMP was the only "dual Victor Laudum". Or, again, Campaign has said "the leading agency in getting this balance is of course BMP. By blending imaginative creative work with rigorous research of its ads it has managed to alter the assumption that there is an eternal dichotomy between brilliance and results" (February 1982).

We are succeeding in doing what we set out to do in starting the Agency fifteen years ago.

Stanley Pollitt

One of the key architects of the new kind of agency we pioneered was Stanley Pollitt who sadly died in 1979 at the early age of 49. That BMP has prospered so well since that time and shown such stability is the greatest compliment that could be paid to his ideas, his vision and his hard work over the first eleven years.

MANAGEMENT

Directors of the Company

Chairman
MARTIN BOASE, aged 50, was one of the founding partners of BMP in 1968. Before that he was Assistant Managing Director of Pritchard Wood & Partners. He divides his time more or less equally between senior client contact and the management of the Agency. He also takes part in industry activity as a Council member of both the IPA and the Advertising Association.

Executive Creative Director

JOHN WEBSTER, aged 48, was one of the founding partners of BMP. He took over as Creative Director from Gabe Massimi in 1971, when the latter returned to the United States. He has won more creative advertising awards over the past ten years than anyone else in Europe. He received the President's Award of the Design & Art Directors Association in 1982 for his contribution to advertising.

Joint Managing Director

DAVID BATTENBERG, aged 42, was one of the founding partners of BMP and its first Account Director. His experience ranges over most advertising fields; his particular areas of responsibility include the Creative and Production Departments.

Joint Managing Director

CHRISTOPHER POWELL, aged 39, joined BMP six months after it started and has overall responsibility for about half the clients of the Agency together with the organisation of new business.

Director of Account Planning

DAVID COWAN, aged 39, originally worked at Pritchard Wood & Partners and J. Walter Thompson before joining BMP in 1971.

Media Director

TIMOTHY COX, aged 37, trained with the founding partners of the Agency at Pritchard Wood & Partners and also worked at FCB, Crawfords and McCann-Erickson where he became media director. He joined BMP in 1975.

Finance Director

GEORGEY CARTER, aged 37, is an accountant who worked for nearly four years as financial controller at two other advertising agencies before joining BMP as Finance Director and Company Secretary in 1977.

Non-executive Director

PETER JONES, aged 40, is a statistician, and was one of the founding partners of the Agency. He left the Agency at the end of 1976 and returned in 1980 in a non-executive capacity. He is now involved in financial and corporate planning.

Directors of the Agency

The Board of the Agency consists of 22 Directors, of whom 8 are the Directors of the Company. The names and responsibilities of the other Executive Directors of the Agency are set out below:

CREATIVE DIRECTOR	ALANTILLY
GROUP ACCOUNT DIRECTORS	JAMES FLAMMIGER MICHAEL DECKERT JOHN MCNEIGHT THOMAS RODWELL MARTIN SANDY
PLANNING DIRECTORS	ROSS BARR JAMES BEST CHRISTOPHER COWPE PAUL FELDHOUSE
DIRECTOR OF TV TIME-BUYING	CHRISTOPHER DENNIS
MEDIA PLANNING DIRECTOR	STEPHEN BARRESON

Agency Staff

BMP's commitment to planning in advertising development results in more or less equal numbers of people being involved in the three skills: creative, account handling and account planning. The breakdown of the staff by function is shown here:

MANAGEMENT	7
ACCOUNT HANDLING	22
ACCOUNT PLANNING	20
CREATIVE	23
MEDIA	15
PRODUCTION	22
ACCOUNTS/ADMINISTRATION	27
SECRETARIES	19
TOTAL STAFF	155

Continued Management Shareholding

The 20 Directors of the Agency who currently hold Shares in the Company will continue to do so after the Offer for Sale. Save with the consent of the Board of the Company, they have agreed not to sell any further Shares in the Company in the next 12 months and to accept further restrictions on sales over the following 3 years. Further information is set out in paragraph 13 (j) of Appendix III. The Company will continue to operate the 1978 Group Share Participation Scheme. In a service industry we believe this represents a sound formula for the future prosperity of the Company and its staff.

INDUSTRY PROSPECTS

Advertising has defied recession

The way that advertising expenditure has held up in the United Kingdom during the current recession has been widely acknowledged, if never fully or satisfactorily explained. We believe that it has been caused not by one but by a whole collection of factors.

Lessons learnt from 1974 recession

First, it is widely accepted that companies which adopted the long view in the recession of 1974 and kept up their advertising investment for the most part enjoyed long-term sales rewards.

Importance of the brand franchise

Second, the maintenance of advertising expenditure has gone hand in hand with an increasing recognition that the brand franchise represents, if not for accounting purposes, one of a company's most important assets. The change in the balance of economic power from the manufacturer to the retailer has only served to highlight brand strength as central to the manufacturer's commercial health.

Importers spend to buy UK market share

Third, importers' share of the United Kingdom market has increased radically in the last decade, and they have not been slow to realise the importance of advertising as part of the price of market entry. This in turn has provoked some home-based manufacturers to increase their advertising to sales ratios in order to compete.

High advertising expenditure growth in UK

Fourth, during the 1970's the United Kingdom enjoyed a very high growth rate of per capita expenditure on advertising, although this expenditure still lags significantly behind the United States.

London becomes centre of innovation in advertising

Last, and not necessarily least, London became during the last decade the centre of innovation in advertising - the place where dull formula solutions were questioned and where creativity was paramount, provided it had a clear commercial focus. London became the Athens of Advertising.

If these are some of the reasons why the advertising business has prospered, will it go on doing so?

Significant real growth in advertising expenditure forecast for 1983 and 1984

FORECAST PERCENTAGE INCREASE ON PREVIOUS YEAR

	AT CONSTANT PRICES	AT CURRENT PRICES
1982	2%	11%
1983	5%	11%
1984	7%	13%

Source: Advertising Association

The Advertising Association has been producing its Forecast of Advertising Expenditure on a quarterly basis for 6 years. Given the difficulties of predicting the precise quarterly levels of movement in the inflation rate, this forecast has shown a high degree of accuracy. The latest Forecast for the period to the end of 1984 highlights consumer expenditure and company profits as the two main determinants of advertising expenditure and has this to say: "We expect total advertising expenditure to rise significantly in real terms for the rest of 1983, to establish its highest ever level, and to continue to grow thereafter in real terms at least until the end of 1984".

BMP'S PROSPECTS

Big growth opportunity for BMP

We believe for a number of reasons that BMP is particularly well-suited to prosper within this scenario. It has a short client list with the capacity to grow without running into the problem of account conflict (e.g. an agency cannot handle two competing brands of dog food). Our analysis of advertising expenditure monitored by MEAL (Media Expenditure Analysis Limited) for 1982 reveals that BMP is still unrepresented in 131 of the 150 categories where substantial advertising budgets exist. Total advertising expenditure in these categories amounts to over £1.4 billion per annum. This is our potential market. Increasing our market share represents our first priority.

Importance of television and its developments

Television is the most dynamic part of the media scene. BMP has the experience with Sony, Pretel, Channel 4 and Anglia Television as clients to keep abreast of the latest developments. As I have said, in 1982 two-thirds of the Agency's media billings were in television.

Main contender for Top Ten

In 1983 Research Services Limited, on behalf of BMP, carried out an independent and anonymous survey amongst a sample of the top 100 United Kingdom advertisers, measured in billings. This shows that in the overwhelming view of those who responded BMP is, among comparable agencies, the agency most likely to enter the Top Ten in the next few years. The Report also shows that BMP is highly rated for "outstanding creative work based on sound strategic thinking".

International services

In certain product fields usage and attitudes cross national boundaries. In others they do not. Eating and drinking habits differ widely but it is possible to discern common attitudes, for example, towards airlines and credit cards. The development of advertising themes, where suitable, to exploit common attitudes demands international co-operation. For this reason BMP belongs to the Univas Agency Network with its headquarters in France and representation throughout Europe. This is a federation of agencies which handles international advertising.

BMP's offices

BMP has leasehold offices in Paddington which have been substantially altered to meet BMP's specific needs and to leave room for considerable expansion of the business within the existing premises. They were described by Creative Review in October 1982 as "almost the definitive version of what an agency ought to look like".

Improved efficiency

We believe that our present efficiency can be maintained and improved as we grow. To this end we have recently installed our own computer which should further improve our performance in the areas of client billing, media buying and market research analysis.

Growth in billings and profits

Taking the past 5 years as a whole, the Agency has seen considerable growth in both billings and profits, which we are confident will continue. The Group's trading performance was severely affected in 1979 and 1980 by losses in two subsidiaries which were not engaged in the mainstream business of the Group and whose activities have now been discontinued, with the exception of one account which was absorbed into the Agency. Two additional factors combined to produce a loss in 1979: a lengthy television strike and substantially increased bonuses paid to senior employees to take advantage of the lower rates of income tax introduced that year. Bonuses remained high in 1980 as the main means of profit participation but were reduced thereafter following the introduction of the Group Share Participation Scheme. In the light of the listing of the Company's Shares, and in the expectation of dividends, the payment of these bonuses has now been discontinued and will not be revived.

The Company had a good year in 1982 with profits sharply up on the previous year. Increased billings came from a combination of new accounts gained and higher expenditure from existing clients. As a result the Company entered 1983 with its best ever base for business expansion.

1983 has started well and in addition to our active involvement for existing clients the Agency has won new accounts, notably Hofmeister Lager, and new projects from United Biscuits and Argyll Foods. The Agency has the record, the substance and the contemporary structure to achieve further growth.

Profit and dividend forecast

On the basis of the actual figures for the first three months of 1983 and estimated figures for the remaining nine months, and in the absence of unforeseen circumstances, the Directors of the Company forecast Group pre-tax profits for 1983 of not less than £1.35 million. On the basis of this forecast we expect to pay dividends totalling 4.5p per Share for 1983.

Further details relating to the forecast, the assumptions on which it is based, earnings per Share and dividends are set out in Appendix I.

We believe BMP has a great future.

Yours faithfully,

Malcolm Boase
Chairman

APPENDIX I - PROFIT AND DIVIDEND FORECAST - ASSUMPTIONS AND LETTERS

1. PROFIT FORECAST

The Directors of Boase Massimi Pollitt plc forecast that, in the absence of unforeseen circumstances, the profit before taxation of the Company and its subsidiaries ("the Group") for the year ending 31st December, 1983 will be not less than £1,350,000.

The profit forecast takes into account the results shown by the unaudited management accounts for the three months ended 31st March, 1983 and, in relation to the remaining nine months to 31st December, 1983, the forecast is made on the following principal bases and assumptions:

Bases

- the advertising income from the Group's existing clients is the aggregate of billings committed during April and May and forecast for the remainder of the period, supported by written confirmation of intentions from all clients;
- wage and salary costs take account of current actual levels, together with planned increases in personnel and anticipated salary increments; and
- other operating costs reflect current levels, together with an allowance for inflation.

Assumptions

- the Group, its major clients and suppliers, including media outlets and production organisations, will not be affected by serious or prolonged industrial disputes; and
- the net result of gains of new business and losses of existing business will not adversely affect the forecast of client billings and net income.

2. EARNINGS PER SHARE

On the basis of the profit forecast mentioned above and on the assumption of a corporation tax rate of 55 per cent, the earnings attributable to the ordinary shareholders before extraordinary items and amortisation of goodwill, will be not less than £607,500. Based on 5,152,907 Ordinary Shares in issue, this would give earnings per Share of not less than 11.79p.

3. DIVIDEND FORECAST

It is the present intention of the Directors to declare an interim dividend of 2.0p net per Share, to be paid in October 1983, and, subject to the achievement of the above profit forecast, to recommend a final dividend of 2.5p net per Share, payable in May 1984, a total of 4.5p net per Share in respect of the year ending 31st December, 1983. This total dividend would represent a gross yield of 2.3 per cent, on the minimum tender price of 280p and would be covered 2.62 times on the basis of the forecast earnings per Share.

4. LETTERS ON PROFIT FORECAST

The following is a copy of a letter from Dixon Wilson & Co., Auditors to the Company, concerning the profit forecast.

26th April, 1983

The Directors,
Boase Massimi Pollitt plc,
12 Bishop's Bridge Road,
London W2 6AA.

Gentlemen,

We have reviewed the accounting policies and calculations for the historical cost profit forecast, for which the Directors are solely responsible, of Boase Massimi Pollitt plc and its subsidiaries ("the Group") for the year ending 31st December, 1983, set out in the Offer for Sale Prospectus to be dated 27th April, 1983. The forecast includes the results shown by the unaudited management accounts for the three months ended 31st March, 1983.

In our opinion the forecast, so far as the accounting policies and calculations are concerned, has been properly compiled on the basis of the assumptions made by the Directors and set out in Appendix I of the Offer for Sale Prospectus referred to above and is presented on a basis consistent with the accounting policies normally adopted by the Group.

Yours faithfully,

Dixon Wilson & Co. Chartered Accountants

The following is a copy of a letter from Morgan Grenfell & Co. Limited, concerning the profit forecast.

26th April, 1983

The Directors,
Boase Massimi Pollitt plc,
12 Bishop's Bridge Road,
London W2 6AA.

Dear Sirs,

We refer to the profit forecast in respect of the year ending 31st December, 1983 set out in the Offer for Sale Prospectus to be dated 27th April, 1983. We have discussed this forecast and the bases and assumptions on which it is made with officers of your Company and we have considered the letter addressed to yourselves from Dixon Wilson & Co. regarding the accounting policies and calculations underlying such forecast.

We consider that the profit forecast (for which you, as Directors, are solely responsible) has been made after due and careful enquiry.

Yours faithfully,

For Morgan Grenfell & Co. Limited

R. M. L. Webb Director

APPENDIX II - ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

The following is a copy of a Report made by the Auditors and Reporting Accountants, Dixon Wilson & Co., Chartered Accountants.

26th April, 1983

The Directors,
Boase Massimi Pollitt plc and
Morgan Grenfell & Co. Limited

Gentlemen,

We report that Boase Massimi Pollitt plc ("the Company") was incorporated on 24th December, 1979 as a private limited company. It was re-registered as a public company on 18th April, 1983.

The Company was formed to acquire the whole of the issued share capital of The Boase Massimi Pollitt Partnership Limited ("BMP"). The result was that the Directors' and employees' interest in BMP increased from 32 per cent. to 82 per cent.

BMP is the principal trading company and has been under the management control of those individuals who are now Directors of the Company throughout the period covered by our report. Accordingly the financial statements set out hereafter are those which would have been reported had the Company and its subsidiaries as presently constituted ("the Group") been in existence during the period 1st January, 1978 to 31st December, 1982 covered by our report ("the Period"). All principal subsidiary companies are wholly owned by the Company and are listed below.

Subsidiaries currently operating and which operated during the Period:

- BMP, which changed its name from The Boase Massimi Pollitt Univas Partnership Limited on 2nd February, 1983;
- FGDS Designs Limited ("FGDS");
- Bilco Limited ("Bilco")

Subsidiaries operating during the Period which have now ceased trading:

- Direct Advertising Limited ("DAL")
- Print Promotions and Publicity Limited ("PPP") which changed its name to Alacrity Finance (Paddington) Limited on 26th October, 1982.

The accounting periods covered by the report in respect of the Group are:

The Company	24th December, 1979 to 31st December, 1982
BMP, FGDS & PPP	1st January, 1978 to 31st December, 1982
DAL	4th August, 1978 to 31st December, 1980
Bilco	1st January, 1982 to 31st December, 1982

DAL ceased its business activities on 31st December, 1980 when its business was transferred to BMP and PPP.

PPP disposed of the major part of its business on 17th September, 1982 to a third party, Spliceout Limited.

Other subsidiary companies owned are dormant and did not trade during the Period.

We were not auditors of the Company and its subsidiaries prior to the period commencing 1st January, 1982. The consolidated accounts for the four preceding years were reported upon without qualification by Leonard Bloch & Co., Chartered Accountants. We were the auditors of the Company and all its subsidiaries, other than Alacrity Finance (Paddington) Limited, for the year ended 31st December, 1982.

The financial statements which are set out below are based on the audited accounts. They have been prepared under the historical cost convention and after making such adjustments to the audited accounts as are, in our opinion, appropriate.

In our opinion, the financial information set out below under the heading "Historical Cost Accounts" gives a true and fair view of the profit and loss and source and application of funds for the periods stated and of the state of affairs of the Company and the Group as at 31st December, 1982 according to the historical cost convention and the accounting policies stated below.

Further, in our opinion, the abridged supplementary current cost accounts set out below have been properly prepared in accordance with the policies and methods described to give the information required by Statement of Standard Accounting Practice No. 16.

No audited financial statements have been prepared in respect of any period since 31st December, 1982.

HISTORICAL COST ACCOUNTS

ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The significant accounting policies adopted in arriving at the financial information set out in this report are as follows:

1. BASIS OF CONSOLIDATION

The consolidated financial information includes the accounts of the Company and its subsidiary companies. The financial information has been reported upon as if the Group as currently constituted had been in existence for each of the accounting periods under review.

2. TURNOVER

Turnover represents the invoice values charged to clients in respect of commissionable media and production expenditure, plus advertising fees, which are included in turnover at six and two-thirds times the fees actually charged to clients, in accordance with the industry's standard practice. Within the advertising industry "turnover" is usually referred to as "billings".

3. COST OF SALES

BOASE MASSIMI POLLITT plc (continued)

APPENDIX II - ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT (continued)

NOTES TO STATEMENT OF CONSOLIDATED PROFIT AND LOSS
Years ended 31st December

	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982
1. OPERATING EXPENSES					
include:					
Depreciation	95	107	103	119	124
Lease rentals	13	69	169	230	214
Auditors' remuneration	7	11	15	14	18
Directors' emoluments (See Note 1(a))	407	748	716	685	721
Interest payable:					
Bank overdraft	7	43	65	87	73
Other	—	—	—	10	17
Payments to Group Share Participation Scheme	—	—	40	42	41
and are shown after crediting:					
Bank interest	13	3	22	—	14
Rent receivable	—	4	26	52	66
Premium on sale and lease back of leasehold premises	—	—	26	—	—
Note 1(a)					
Directors' emoluments include:					
Salaries	287	286	345	407	445
Bonuses	33	302	305	138	106
Pension contributions	87	160	66	140	161
Compensation for loss of office	—	—	—	—	9

2. LOAN STOCK INTEREST
Interest on the 12½% Secured Loan Stock issued by the Company to former shareholders of BMP in exchange for BMP shares.

3. TAXATION
The charge for taxation represents United Kingdom corporation tax on the profits and comprises:

	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982
Current tax	73	—	42	92	486
Prior year adjustments	5	—	—	—	(8)
	78	—	42	92	478

The charge for current tax was reduced by the net effect of (a) excess capital allowances over depreciation, (b) stock relief and (c) expenditure, mainly entertaining, which is not eligible for tax relief.

4. EXTRAORDINARY ITEMS

	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982
Closure costs of PPP, less taxation	—	—	—	—	55
Write-off of trade investment	—	—	—	—	10
Write-off of formation costs	—	—	—	—	10
	—	—	—	—	75

5. EARNINGS PER SHARE
The earnings per share calculations are based on the profit on ordinary activities after taxation and before extraordinary items and amortisation of goodwill and on the 4,752,507 Ordinary Shares deemed to be in issue during each period, adjusted to take account of the changes in capitalisation referred to in Note 8 under "Called Up Share Capital". For the three years ending 31st December, 1980 a deduction has been made of £70,000 less tax from the relevant profit figures in each of those years as a notional adjustment to equate with the full effect of the interest on the 12½% Secured Loan Stock issued on the acquisition of BMP by the Company.

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF SOURCE AND APPLICATION OF FUNDS
Years ended 31st December

	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982
SOURCE OF FUNDS					
Profit/(loss) before taxation	250	(27)	133	225	790
Extraordinary items before taxation	—	—	—	—	(85)
Items not involving the movement of funds:					
Depreciation	95	107	103	119	124
Profit on sale of fixed assets	(15)	(23)	(12)	(2)	(1)
Loss on write-off of assets	—	—	—	—	48
Re-allocation of results between years	42	(42)	—	—	—
FUNDS GENERATED FROM OPERATIONS	372	15	224	342	876
FUNDS FROM OTHER SOURCES					
Issue of Shares	—	—	190	110	—
Sale of fixed assets/investments	142	169	48	21	8
Taxation recovered	—	—	—	—	36
Hire purchase finance	—	—	—	75	—
	514	184	462	548	920
APPLICATIONS					
Company formation costs	—	—	(10)	—	—
Acquisition of BMP:					
Cash element	—	—	—	(300)	—
Costs	—	—	(11)	—	—
Loans to trustees of Employee Share Purchase Schemes	(44)	—	(21)	—	—
Purchases of fixed assets	(484)	(214)	(260)	(272)	(56)
Dividends paid by BMP	(36)	(70)	(70)	(17)	—
Redemption of loan stock	—	—	—	(96)	(96)
Taxation paid	(182)	(128)	(172)	(33)	—
Purchase of investment	—	—	—	(10)	—
NET (OUTFLOW)/INFLOW OF FUNDS	(232)	(228)	(82)	(180)	768
Represented by:					
CHANGES IN WORKING CAPITAL					
Increase/(decrease) in debtors	41	77	246	(201)	(111)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	679	668	292	484	257
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	(636)	(762)	(1,103)	452	(639)
Decrease in deferred hire purchase liability	—	—	—	—	14
Movements in net liquid funds:					
(Decrease)/increase in cash and bank balances	(316)	(211)	483	(915)	1,267
	(232)	(228)	(82)	(180)	768

BALANCE SHEETS

At 31st December, 1982

	Note	The Company	The Group
FIXED ASSETS			
Intangible asset	—	—	756
Tangible assets	2	—	714
Investment	2	1,461	—
		1,461	1,470
CURRENT ASSETS			
Costs incurred on behalf of clients	4	—	168
Trade debtors	—	—	3,365
Sundry debtors and prepayments	5	—	421
Due from subsidiary company	—	290	—
Cash at bank and in hand	—	1	729
		292	4,683
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Bank overdraft	—	—	(78)
Trade creditors	—	—	(3,043)
Other creditors and accruals	—	—	(118)
Current tax	—	—	(507)
Other taxes and social security costs	—	—	(569)
Due to subsidiary company	—	—	(218)
		(336)	(4,693)
NET CURRENT ASSETS/(LIABILITIES)		(44)	44
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		1,417	1,514
Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year	6	(271)	(331)
NET ASSETS		1,146	1,183
Representing:			
CAPITAL AND RESERVES			
Called up share capital	8	891	891
Retained profits	9	255	292
SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS		1,146	1,183

NOTES TO THE BALANCE SHEETS

1. INTANGIBLE FIXED ASSET

	1982
Cost of purchased goodwill on acquisition of BMP	840
Deduct: Amounts written off to date	84
	756

2. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Cost	Depreciation	Method value
	1982	1982	1982
Short leasehold property improvements	513	154	359
Furniture and equipment	620	270	350
Motor vehicles	18	13	5
	1,151	437	714

Assets being acquired under hire purchase arrangements and costing £146,000 are included as part of the tangible fixed assets.

The majority of the Group's private motor vehicles are subject to finance leasing and are excluded from tangible fixed assets and the obligation to pay rentals is not included in the balance sheet as a liability. Future hire purchase and lease rental payments are dealt with under Note 12 below "Lease commitments".

3. INVESTMENT

The Company's investment in its subsidiaries is stated at cost and represents consideration comprising cash, loan stock and the nominal value of the Company's Shares issued in exchange for the shares of BMP. Intra-Group indebtedness is included under current assets and current liabilities.

4. COSTS INCURRED ON BEHALF OF CLIENTS

These represent unbilled advertising production costs incurred on behalf of clients after provision for amounts which may not be recovered.

5. SUNDY DEBTORS AND PREPAYMENTS

These include an interest free loan of £29,975 to a company in which Mr. Martin Boase is interested as director and shareholder. It has subsequently been repaid. There are also included loans of £125,360 to the trustees of the BMP 1972 and 1977 Employee Share Purchase Schemes in connection with share purchases which have subsequently been repaid.

6. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER MORE THAN ONE YEAR

These comprise:

(a) The outstanding balance of loan stocks which are severally secured over the Company's assets

	1982
12½% Secured Loan Stock 1986/88	271
12½% Secured Loan Stock 1981/83	96
	367

Deduct: Amounts due within the next 12 months and included in current liabilities (96)

Balance 271

The balance is payable by three equal instalments commencing 1st July, 1984. It is proposed to repay all amounts due under the loan stocks out of the proceeds of the issue of Shares referred to in the Prospectus to be dated 27th April, 1983.

(b) Hire purchase commitments at 31st December, 1982 amounted to £110,000 of which the interest element amounted to £21,000. Of the net balance, £29,000 is dealt with as a current liability and £80,000 as a deferred liability.

7. DEFERRED TAXATION

No provision for deferred taxation is made in the Company and Group balance sheets. The potential liability is estimated as follows:

	The Company	The Group
	1982	1982
Accelerated capital allowances	—	182
Tax effect of timing differences (deferred assets)	(12)	(12)
Potential liability at 31st December, 1982	—	170

8. CALLED UP SHARE CAPITAL

At 31st December, 1982 the authorised share capital of the Company was 900,000 Ordinary Shares of £1 each, and the issued share capital was 891,096 Ordinary Shares of £1 each, all of which were fully paid or credited as fully paid. The following changes have taken place since 31st December, 1982. On 26th April, 1983:

	New 25p Shares issued or conditionally allotted to Morgan Nominees Limited	25p Shares deemed to be in issue for calculation of earnings per Share purposes
(a) each of the existing Ordinary Shares of £1 each was sub-divided into 4 Ordinary Shares of 25p each	—	3,564,384
(b) the authorised share capital of the Company was increased to £1,500,000 by the creation of 2,400,000 Ordinary Shares of 25p each	—	—
(c) 93,000 Ordinary Shares of 25p each were issued fully paid for cash to Morgan Nominees Limited	93,000	—
(d) conditionally upon listing, 1,219,123 Ordinary Shares of 25p each were allotted credited as fully paid by way of capitalisation of share premium account to the shareholders of the Company on the register immediately prior to such allotment	31,000	1,188,123
(e) conditionally upon listing, 276,000 Ordinary Shares of 25p each were allotted nil paid to Morgan Nominees Limited	276,000	—
	400,000	4,752,507
		5,152,507

Accordingly, at 26th April, 1983 the authorised share capital of the Company is £1,500,000 divided into 6,000,000 Ordinary Shares of 25p each. Of these 3,657,384 Ordinary Shares of 25p each are issued and fully paid or credited as fully paid and 1,495,123 Ordinary Shares of 25p each are allotted conditionally on listing. Following completion of the Offer for Sale 5,152,507 Ordinary Shares of 25p each will have been issued fully paid or credited as fully paid.

9. RETAINED PROFITS

	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982
At beginning of period	510	612	515	6	97
Profit/(loss) after taxation	172	(27)	91	91	195
Dividends payable by BMP	(70)	(70)	(17)	—	—
	612	515	589	97	292
Deduct: Retained profits arising prior to acquisition of BMP by the Company	—	—	(583)	—	—
At end of period	612	515	6	97	292

10. DIVIDENDS

No dividends have been declared or paid by the Company since its incorporation.

11. CONTINGENT LIABILITY

BMP had a contingent liability in respect of an obligation to settle any unpaid liabilities of the trustees of the BMP 1972 and 1977 Employee Share Purchase Schemes established for the benefit of certain of its employees. The underlying Shares have been distributed to the employees and the Schemes have been terminated. The Directors do not anticipate that any such liability will be incurred by that company.

12. COMMITMENTS

Capital expenditure commitments

At 31st December, 1982 BMP had authorised the purchase of a computer and related peripheral equipment and software for approximately £300,000. There were no other capital commitments authorised at 31st December, 1982.

Lease commitments

The future payments to which the Group is committed in respect of motor vehicles and plant at 31st December, 1982 under finance leases and hire purchase are as follows:

	Finance leases	Hire purchase commitments
	1982	1982
Years ending 31st December:		
1983	175	39
1984	147	36
1985	101	30
1986	—	5
	423	110

The Group's main business premises at 12/14 Bishop's Bridge Road, London W2 are occupied under two leases expiring in late 1991, at a current aggregate annual rental of £159,104. The rents payable under these leases are subject to review in late 1984.

In addition, there are obligations under leases of two separate premises which are no longer used for the Group's business, with expiry dates in 2004 and 2005 respectively, at a current aggregate annual rental of £105,000, subject to rent reviews in 1984 and 1985 respectively and five yearly thereafter. BMP's leasehold interests in these premises are currently being offered for sale. One of the premises is partly sub-let to tenants under short term leases at current net aggregate annual rentals of £30,600, the remainder being currently occupied by a tenant under a periodic tenancy terminable by the tenant on 26 weeks' notice. The net rent currently payable to BMP under that periodic tenancy is £35,420 per annum.

CURRENT COST ACCOUNTS

CONSOLIDATED PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT

Years ended 31st December

	Note	1981	1982
		1981	1982
Turnover		32,695	36,339
Historical cost profit before taxation and interest	—	300	918
Current cost operating profit before taxation and interest	2	(70)	(79)
Gearing adjustment	1	24	27
Interest payable less interest receivable	—	(165)	(128)
Current cost profit before taxation	—	179	738
Taxation	—	(92)	(478)
Current cost after taxation	—	87	260
Extraordinary items	—	—	(75)
Amortisation of goodwill	—	(42)	(42)
Retained current cost profit	—	45	143
Current cost earnings per Share	3	1.23p	5.47p

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET

At 31st December, 1982

	Note	1981	1982
		1981	1982
FIXED ASSETS			
Intangible assets	—	—	756
Tangible assets	4	—	966
		—	1,722
MONETARY WORKING CAPITAL			
OTHER NET LIABILITIES	—	—	451
NET ASSETS			1,435
Representing:			
CAPITAL AND RESERVES			
Called up share capital	—	—	891
Retained reserves	5	—	544
SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS			1,435

NOTES

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

General

The current cost financial statements have been prepared in compliance with Statement of Standard Accounting Practice No. 16. Accounting policies differing from those used in the historical cost accounts are noted below.

Tangible fixed assets and depreciation adjustment

The value to the business of tangible fixed assets has been restated by the application of appropriate government indices to the historical cost of the assets. Depreciation has been calculated by applying price indices to the historical cost depreciation in order that the charge represents the value of the tangible fixed assets consumed during the period. No revision has been made to the existing asset lives, which are considered to be adequate.

Cost of sales adjustment

No cost of sales adjustment is considered to be appropriate.

Monetary working capital adjustment

Monetary working capital includes all debtors and creditors arising from the trading activities of the Group, together with the element of the cash balances required to support the business operations.

Gearing Adjustment

The gearing adjustment represents that proportion of the current cost operating adjustment which relates to those operating assets which have been financed by borrowings rather than by shareholders' funds. It is calculated by applying to that adjustment the proportion which the average net borrowings bear to the total net borrowings and shareholders' funds.

2. CURRENT COST OPERATING ADJUSTMENTS

	1981	1982
	1981	1982
Monetary working capital	37	35
Depreciation	26	43
Fixed assets disposals	7	1
	70	79

3. EARNINGS PER SHARE

Earnings per Share have been calculated on earnings of £260,000 (1981 £87,000) divided by 4,752,507 Ordinary Shares.

4. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Gross current replacement cost	Depreciation	Net current replacement cost
	1982	1982	1982
Short leasehold property improvements	683	199	484
Furniture and equipment	919	442	477
Motor vehicles	22	17	5
	1,624	658	966

5. RETAINED RESERVES

	1981	1982
	£000	£000
At beginning of period	6	317
Revaluation surpluses	253	76
Monetary working capital adjustment	37	35
Gearing adjustment	(24)	(27)
Retained profit for period	45	143
At end of period	317	544

BOASE MASSIMI POLLITT plc (continued) STATUTORY AND GENERAL INFORMATION (continued)

(g) Save as disclosed in paragraphs 1(d)(v), 4(a) and 4(b) of this prospectus:

- no share or loan capital of the Company or any of its subsidiaries is under option or agreed conditionally or unconditionally to be put under option;
- no share or loan capital of the Company or any of its subsidiaries has within two years immediately preceding the date hereof been issued or is proposed to be issued fully or partly paid either for cash or for a consideration other than cash; and
- no commissions, discounts, brokerage or other special terms have been granted by the Company or any of its subsidiaries in connection with the issue or sale of any part of the share or loan capital thereof within two years immediately preceding the date hereof.

(h) 847,493 Ordinary Shares will remain authorised to be issued following the Offer for Sale. No material issue of Shares of the Company (other than to shareholders pro rata in existing holdings) will be made within one year of the date of this Prospectus without the prior approval of the Company in General Meeting. No issue of Shares will be made which would effectively alter the control of the Company or the nature of its business without the prior approval of the Company in General Meeting.

2. The Subsidiaries

(a) The Company has the following subsidiaries other than dormant subsidiaries:

- BMP. This company was incorporated in England on 11th June, 1968 as a private company and has an issued share capital of 18,420 'A' Ordinary Shares of 1p each, 18,420 'B' Ordinary Shares of 1p each and 370,840 Deferred Ordinary Shares of 1p each, all of which are owned by the Company. It is the principal trading company in the Group.
- FGDS Design Limited. This company was incorporated in England on 30th December, 1975 as a private company and has an issued share capital of 2 Ordinary Shares of £1 each owned by BMP. It trades as a design studio.
- Alacrity Finance (Paddington) Limited (formerly called Print Promotions and Publicity Limited). This company was incorporated in England on 7th January, 1977 as a private company and has an issued share capital of 2 Ordinary Shares of £1 each owned by BMP. Its business has been in the area of promotional printing, publishing and design. Its assets were sold to a third party, Splice Court Limited, on 17th September, 1982.
- Bilco Limited. This company was incorporated in England on 5th November, 1981 as a private company and has an issued share capital of 2 Ordinary Shares of £1 each owned by BMP. Its business consists of producing rough television commercials for research purposes.

(b) The Company has the following dormant subsidiaries: they are all private companies incorporated in England and wholly owned by BMP.

Name	Date of incorporation	Issued share capital
Joemac Limited	27th Mar. 1976	2 Ordinary Shares of £1 each
Alacrity (Finance) Limited	10th January, 1974	2 Ordinary Shares of £1 each
BMP Investments Limited	7th June, 1976	2 Ordinary Shares of £1 each
Direct Advertising Limited	4th August, 1978	2 Ordinary Shares of £1 each
BMP Media Limited	13th February, 1980	2 Ordinary Shares of £1 each

(c) Specials Design Limited. This company was incorporated in England on 5th January, 1973 as a private company and is dormant. It has an issued share capital of 100 Ordinary Shares of £1 each, of which 70 are owned by BMP.

3. Pro Forma Balance Sheet

There is set out below a pro forma balance sheet based on the Group historical cost balance sheet at 31st December, 1982, as set out in the Accountants' Report in Appendix II adjusted in respect of:

- receipt of gross proceeds of £1,098 million from the subscriptions for Ordinary Shares referred to in paragraphs 1(d)(v) and 1(e) above;
- payment of estimated costs of £330,000 in connection with the Offer for Sale, the costs to be charged against share premium account; and
- repayment of amounts due to loan stock holders of £366,698; and
- adjustment to the Company's issued share capital as referred to in paragraphs 1(d) and 1(e) above.

	Pre Arrangement Report	Pro forma balance sheet
	000	000
FIXED ASSETS		
Intangible asset	756	756
Tangible assets	714	714
	1,470	1,470
CURRENT ASSETS		
Costs incurred on behalf of clients	168	168
Trade debtors	3,365	3,365
Sundry debtors and prepayments	421	421
Cash at bank and in hand	729	1,130
	4,683	5,084
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Bank overdraft	(78)	(78)
Taxation	(507)	(507)
Trade creditors	(3,043)	(3,043)
Other creditors	(1,011)	(915)
	(4,639)	(4,543)
NET CURRENT ASSETS	44	541
	1,514	2,011
NET ASSETS	1,183	1,951
SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS	1,183	1,951

4. Offer Arrangements

- By an application letter (the "Application Letter") dated 26th April, 1983 accepted by the Company, Morgan Grenfell applied for 93,000 Ordinary Shares of 25p each at a price of 365.86p per Share (subject to upward adjustment of 6.67p per Share for every 5p by which the Striking Price exceeds the minimum tender price per Share under the Offer for Sale) to be issued to Nominees. The price per Share payable by Morgan Grenfell under the Application Letter reflects the fact that Nominees subsequently participated in the capitalisation issue referred to in paragraph 1(c) (i) above.
- By an agreement (the "Offer for Sale Agreement") dated 26th April, 1983 between (1) certain shareholders of the Company (being the 19 Executive Directors of BMP, Mr. P. I. Jones and Eurocom) (the "Vendors") (2) the Directors of the Company, (3) the Company, and (4) Morgan Grenfell, Morgan Grenfell has agreed, subject to Listing (as defined therein) not later than 6th May, 1983:

- to purchase from the Vendors a total of 1,007,149 Ordinary Shares of 25p each allotted to them (conditionally upon Listing) upon renounceable letters of allotment and 106,932 Ordinary Shares of 25p each already in issue;
- to subscribe for a total of 276,000 Ordinary Shares of 25p each;

in each case at a price per Share of 5.6p below the Striking Price and to offer the same, together with the 93,000 Ordinary Shares of 25p already issued to it as referred to in paragraph 1(d) (v) above and the 31,000 Ordinary Shares of 25p each allotted to it (conditionally upon Listing) as a result of the capitalisation referred to in paragraph 1(c) (i) above, for sale to the public by tender at a minimum tender price of 280p per Share.

The Vendors undertake in the Offer for Sale Agreement to indemnify the Company and its subsidiaries in respect of certain charges to taxation.

The Vendors have agreed to pay Morgan Grenfell a fee of £5,000 (excluding value added tax) and the Company has agreed to pay Morgan Grenfell a fee of £75,000 (excluding value added tax) out of which Morgan Grenfell is to pay Rowe & Pitman's fee and its own legal expenses. Morgan Grenfell is to pay an underwriting commission of 1% per cent. of the minimum tender price. All other costs, charges and expenses of and incidental to the Offer for Sale and the application for Listing, including the expenses of printing, advertising, capital duty and its own legal expenses, will be borne by the Company.

The Vendors (other than Eurocom which is to sell all its Shares in the Company under the Offer for Sale Agreement) have agreed with Morgan Grenfell not to dispose of any further Shares in the Company for a period of one year without the prior written consent of Morgan Grenfell, which consent will not be unreasonably withheld.

5. Directors' and Other Interests

(a) The interests (as defined in the Companies Act 1967 (as amended)) and taking into account the capitalisation issue referred to above) of the Directors in the share capital of the Company before and immediately following completion of the Offer for Sale will be as follows:

Director	BEFORE OFFER FOR SALE		AFTER OFFER FOR SALE	
	Beneficial no. of Shares	%	Beneficial no. of Shares	%
M. Boase	937,509	18.2	651,919*	13.6
J. B. Webster	527,776	10.2	395,832	7.7
D. A. Batterbee	515,573	10.0	386,680	7.5
J. C. Powell	454,154	8.8	340,616	6.6
D. S. Cowan†	260,736	5.0	198,656	3.9
T. C. Cox†	221,237	4.3	169,032	3.3
G. D. Carter†	121,648	2.4	94,240	1.8
P. I. Jones	92,752	1.8	598,586*	1.4

*Including 508,586 Shares in Trust for the Scheme. 112,416 of the Shares shown as beneficially owned by each of Messrs. Cowan, Cox and Carter are Scheme Shares.

(b) The Directors are not aware of any other shareholding which, immediately after the Offer for Sale, will amount to 5 per cent. or more of the Company's issued share capital.

(c) No Director has or has had any interest in any assets which within two years immediately preceding the date hereof have been, or are proposed to be, acquired or disposed of by or leased to the Company or any of its subsidiaries and no contract or arrangement exists in which a Director is materially interested and which is significant in relation to the business of the Company or any of its subsidiaries taken as a whole.

6. Directors' Service and Consultancy Agreements

The following is a summary of the Executive Directors' service agreements:

Director	Date of commencement	Term of agreement	1983 Salary
M. Boase	1st April, 1983	5 years	£60,000
J. B. Webster	1st April, 1983	5 years	£55,000
D. A. Batterbee	1st April, 1983	5 years	£45,000
J. C. Powell	1st April, 1983	5 years	£45,000
D. S. Cowan	1st April, 1983	5 years	£38,000
T. C. Cox	1st April, 1983	5 years	£38,000
G. D. Carter	1st April, 1983	2 years	£32,000

In addition to their basic salaries, the Company contributes to The Boase Massimi Pollitt Partnership Limited Directors' Retirement and Death Benefits Plan of which all the executive Directors are members.

The aggregate emoluments of the present Directors of the Company during the last financial year ended 31st December, 1982 were £397,570. It is estimated that the aggregate emoluments payable to those Directors in the current financial year ending on 31st December, 1983 under the arrangements in force at the date hereof will be £474,993, to include per diem fees payable to Mr. P. I. Jones for consultancy services provided at the request of the Board of the Company.

In the period from 1st April, 1981 to 31st March, 1982 the aggregate amounts or benefits paid to the 17 promoters of the Company comprising salaries, bonuses, pension contributions, motor car expenses, B.U.F.A. contributions and national insurance were £562,856 and the comparable figure for the relevant 17 promoters during the period 1st April, 1982 to 31st March, 1983 was £579,010. All the promoters were full-time executives of BMP while in receipt of these amounts or benefits.

7. The BMP Employee Share Participation Plan ("The Scheme")

The Scheme, set up to take advantage of the provisions of Chapter III of Part III of the Finance Act 1978 ("the 1978 Act"), is governed by a Trust Deed dated 30th December, 1980 as amended by a Memorandum dated 2nd February, 1983. The current trustees of the Scheme are Mr. M. Boase, Mrs. M. Hackl and Mr. P. I. Jones ("the Trustees"). The Scheme has the approval of the Board of Inland Revenue. Subject to the requirements of the 1978 Act (as amended) the amount of monies to be provided to the Trustees by the Company is decided by and at the discretion of the Board of the Company.

All employees of the Agency qualify as beneficiaries under the terms of the Scheme if they have been full-time employees throughout both the financial period out of the profits of which monies are provided by the Company to the Trustees to enable the Trustees to purchase Shares in the Company and the preceding financial period.

For the purposes of allocating benefits, employees who participate in the Scheme are divided into three categories dependent on their level of salary. The ratio of benefits as between each category is subject to change at the instance of the Board of the Company and with the consent in writing of the Board of Inland Revenue.

Since the Scheme was introduced, the Trustees have acquired 112,235 Ordinary Shares of £1 each in the Company representing 12.6 per cent. of the Company's share capital (prior to the capitalisation issue referred to in paragraph 1(c) above). The corresponding percentage after completion of the Offer for Sale will be 11.6 per cent.

The total number of current staff of BMP (excluding the current Directors of the Company) beneficially interested through the Scheme in Shares in the Company is 65.

Under the provisions of the Scheme, as amended, no beneficiary may receive benefits in excess of the maximum benefit permitted by Section 58 of, and Paragraph 1(4) of Schedule 9 to, the Finance Act 1978, as amended from time to time.

8. Articles of Association

The Articles of Association of the Company adopted by it conditionally upon Listing as referred to in paragraph 1(c)(iii) above contain provisions, *inter alia*, to the following effect:

Voting
Upon a show of hands every member present in person shall have one vote and upon a poll every member present in person or by proxy shall have one vote for every Share held by him. These provisions are subject to any special terms as to voting upon which any Shares may for the time being be held: there are no such terms at present.

Rights of Shares

Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, the rights attached to any class of Shares may be modified, abrogated or varied either with the consent in writing of the holders of three-fourths of the issued Shares of that class or with the sanction of an extraordinary resolution passed at a separate general meeting of the holders of the Shares of that class.

Renouncing Powers

Subject to the provisions of the Articles of Association, the Directors may exercise all the powers of the Company to borrow money but shall restrict the borrowings of the Company and exercise all voting and other rights or powers of control exercisable by the Company in relation to its subsidiaries for the time being ("the subsidiaries") so as to secure (but as regards the subsidiaries only in so far as by the exercise of such rights or powers of control the Directors can secure) that the aggregate amount at any one time outstanding in respect of money borrowed (as such expression is defined in the Articles of Association) or secured by the Company and the subsidiaries and owing to persons outside the Group shall not without the previous sanction of the Company in general meeting exceed an amount equal to three times the aggregate of:

- the amount paid up or credited as paid up on the share capital of the Company; and
- the amount standing to the credit of the reserves of the Company and the subsidiaries after adjustment as more particularly set out in the relevant Article.

Directors

(a) The fees of the Directors shall be such sums as may from time to time be determined by the Company in general meeting. The Directors may be paid all reasonable expenses incurred by them in attending meetings of the Directors or committees of the Directors or general meetings or otherwise in or about the business of the Company.

(b) Any Director who is appointed to any executive office or who serves on any committee or who otherwise performs services which in the opinion of the Directors are outside the scope of the ordinary duties of a Director may be paid in addition to any Directors' fees such remuneration by way of salary, percentage of profits or otherwise, as the Directors may determine.

(c) Subject to the provisions of the Articles of Association, the Directors on behalf of the Company may pay a gratuity or pension or allowance on retirement to any Director, whether or not he has held any other salaried office or place of profit with the Company or in his widow or dependants and may make contributions to any fund and pay premiums for the purchase or provision of any such gratuity, pension or allowance.

(d) Save as otherwise provided by the Articles of Association, a Director shall not vote or be counted in a quorum in respect of any contract, arrangement or any other proposal whatsoever in which he has any material interest otherwise than by virtue of his interest in Shares or debentures or other securities of or otherwise in or through the Company. The Company may by ordinary resolution suspend or relax such provisions in any event or ratify any transaction not authorised by reason of a contravention thereof.

(e) Any Director may or any firm in which he is interested may act in a professional capacity for the Company (otherwise than as auditor) and he or such firm shall be entitled to remuneration for professional services as if he were not a Director.

(f) A Director shall not be required to hold any Shares in the Company by way of qualification.

(g) A Director shall not be required to retire by reason of his having attained the age of seventy or any other age and section 185 of the Companies Act 1948 shall not apply to the Company.

9. Material Contracts

The following contracts (not being contracts entered into in the ordinary course of business), have been entered into by the Company and its subsidiaries within the two years immediately preceding the date hereof and are or may be material:

- An Agreement dated 17th September, 1982 made between Print Promotions and Publicity Limited (1) BMP (2) Splice Court Limited (3) and Joim Marketing & Publishing Services Limited (4) whereby the assets of Print Promotions and Publicity Limited (now called Alacrity Finance (Paddington) Limited) were sold to Splice Court Limited.
- The Application Letter referred to in paragraph 4(a) above.
- The Offer for Sale Agreement referred to in paragraph 4(b) above.

10. Taxation

The Directors have been advised that following completion of the Offer for Sale the Company will remain a close company within the meaning of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1970.

Taxation indemnities have been given by the Vendors in favour of the Company and its subsidiaries under the Offer for Sale Agreement referred to in paragraph 4(b) above.

11. Premises

The following gives details of the premises occupied by the Group:

Location: 12/14 Bishop's Bridge Road, London W2 6AA. Description: Offices. Size: 23,437 sq. ft. Tenure: Leasehold expiring in 1991, rent reviews every 7 years, next review 1984. Current Annual Rent: £159,104.

Details of premises leased, but not occupied, by the Group are set out in Note 12 to the Balance Sheet in Appendix II.

12. Working Capital

The Directors' opinion that the Company has sufficient working capital for its present requirements after taking into account the Company's existing bank balances and facilities and the net proceeds of the Offer for Sale to be received by the Company.

13. General

(a) The expenses (excluding value added tax) relating to the Offer for Sale and the application for Listing are payable by the Company (except a fee of £5,000 payable by the Vendors to Morgan Grenfell) and are estimated to amount to £330,000.

(b) Of the 1,514,081 Ordinary Shares of 25p each the subject of the Offer for Sale, 1,114,081 are being made available by the Vendors (as defined in paragraph 4(b) above) and the balance comprising the Ordinary Shares of 25p each subscribed for by Morgan Grenfell pursuant to the Application Letter referred to in paragraph 4(a) above and the Offer for Sale Agreement referred to in paragraph 4(b) above and these conditionally allotted to it as a result of the capitalisation referred to in paragraph 1(c)(i) above. The amount payable on application on each Share is the amount tendered per Share by the relevant applicant, being not less than the minimum tender price. The net proceeds of the subscription of Ordinary Shares by Morgan Grenfell pursuant to the Offer for Sale Agreement, based on the minimum tender price, are estimated at £427,344, after deduction of those expenses of the Offer for Sale which are to be borne by the Company, and for each 5p by which the Striking Price exceeds the minimum tender price, the Company will receive a further £13,800 in respect of such Shares. These net proceeds will be used to repay all amounts outstanding under the 12½% Secured Loan Stock 1981/83 and the 12½% Secured Loan Stock 1986/88 and for working capital.

(c) Neither the Company nor any of its subsidiaries has any litigation or claims of material importance pending or threatened against it.

(d) Morgan Grenfell has given and has not withdrawn its written consent to the issue of this Prospectus with the inclusion herein of its letter in the form and context in which it is included.

(e) Dixon Wilson & Co. have given and have not withdrawn their written consent to the issue of this Prospectus with the inclusion herein of their report and their letter in the form and context in which they are included.

(f) Each of Leonard Bloch & Co., Research Services Limited, Campaign and The Advertising Association has given and has not withdrawn its consent to the issue of this Prospectus with the inclusion of the statements respectively made by them in the form and context in which they are included.

(g) The above mentioned consents, the statement of adjustments made by Dixon Wilson & Co. in arriving at the figures in their report and giving the reasons therefor, copies of the Application Letter referred to in paragraph 4(a) above and the Special Application Form set out at the end of this Prospectus and of the Special Application Form set out at the end of this Prospectus and the material contracts referred to in paragraph 9 above were attached to the copies of this Prospectus delivered to the Registrar of Companies for registration.

(h) The minimum amount which, in the opinion of the Directors, must be raised in respect of each of the matters specified in paragraph 4(a) of Part I of the Fourth Schedule to the Companies Act 1948 is:

- (i) nil; (ii) nil; (iii) £366,698; and (iv) £60,646.

The proceeds of the issue of Shares to Nominees pursuant to the Application Letter amount to £340,349.80 (subject to upward adjustment as described in paragraph 4(a) above) and will be used for working capital.

(i) In accordance with normal industry practice (and as required by the various media owner trade associations), the Company maintains insurance against the possibility of clients defaulting on their obligations to the Company and to cover its obligations to the various media owners. In the year to 31st December, 1982, 85 per cent. on average of the Company's continuing obligations to media owners were insured in this way. Insurance is not taken in respect of H.M. Government business nor in respect of those clients who pay in advance of the Company incurring the obligation. The Company intends to continue this type of insurance.

(j) By an agreement dated 26th April, 1983, and in relation to the Shares in the Company owned by him immediately following this Offer for Sale, each of the Executive Directors of the Agency has agreed (save with the consent in writing of the Board of Directors of the Company, which consent will not be unreasonably withheld after taking into account any exceptional circumstances):

- (i) not to dispose of any interest in any such Shares before the first anniversary hereof;
- (ii) not to dispose of any interest in more than 20 per cent. of such Shares before the second anniversary hereof;
- (iii) not to dispose of any interest in more than 40 per cent. of such Shares before the third anniversary hereof;
- (iv) not to dispose of any interest in more than 60 per cent. of such Shares before the fourth anniversary hereof;

and to consult with and retain the Company's stockbrokers for the time being in connection with any such sale.

(k) Morgan Grenfell & Co. Limited is registered in England (No. 315841) and its registered office is at 23 Great Winchester Street, London EC2P 2AX.

(l) The financial information concerning the Company and its subsidiaries contained in this document does not amount to full financial accounts within the meaning of section 11 of the Companies Act 1981. Full individual accounts relating to each financial year to which the financial information relates have been or will be delivered to the Registrar of Companies. The auditors have made a report under section 14 of the Companies Act 1981 in respect of each such set of accounts and each such report was an unqualified report in the meaning of section 43 of the Companies Act 1981.

(m) A Certificate of Exemption has been granted by the Council of The Stock Exchange pursuant to section 39 of the Companies Act 1948.

14. Documents for Inspection

The following documents or copies thereof may be inspected at the offices of Macfarlane, Downgate Hill House, London EC2P 2ST during usual business hours on any weekday (Saturdays and public holidays excepted) for a period of 14 days from the date of this document:

- the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Company;
- the audited accounts of the Company and its subsidiaries for the two years ended 31st December, 1982;
- the Directors' service contracts referred to in paragraph 6 above;
- the material contracts referred to in paragraph 9 above;
- the Accountants' Report set out in Appendix II and the statement of adjustments referred to above;
- the letters set out in Appendix I; and
- the written consents referred to in paragraph 13(d), (e) and (f) above.

Dated 27th April, 1983.

PROCEDURE FOR APPLICATION

Requirements for Application

- Applications must be made on the accompanying application form at the minimum tender price of 280p per Share or at any higher price per Share being a whole multiple of 5p.
 - Applications must be for a minimum of 100 Shares and thereafter in the following multiples of Shares:
- | | |
|--|------------------|
| Applications for: | In multiples of: |
| Not more than 1,000 Shares | 100 Shares |
| Over 1,000 and not more than 5,000 Shares | 500 Shares |
| Over 5,000 and not more than 10,000 Shares | 1,000 Shares |
| Over 10,000 Shares | 5,000 Shares |
- Applications must be lodged with or posted to Barclays Bank PLC, New Issues Department, P.O. Box 123, Fleetway House, 25 Finsbury Square, London EC2A 4HD, to an office in either case not later than 10.00 a.m. on Wednesday, 4th May, 1983 (being the time of opening of the application list).
 - Each application must be accompanied by a separate cheque or banker's draft drawn in sterling on a branch in England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland, the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man of a bank which is either a member of the London or Scottish Clearing Houses or which has arranged for its cheque and banker's drafts to be cleared through the facilities provided for the members of those Clearing Houses (and which must bear the appropriate clearing code number in the right hand corner) made payable to "Barclays Bank PLC" and crossed "Not Negotiable", representing payment in full at the application price. An application will not be considered unless these conditions are satisfied. The right is reserved to present all cheques and banker's drafts for payment on receipt, to retain Letters of Acceptance and to require application monies pending clearance of the successful applicants' cheques and to reject any application in whole or in part and in particular multiple or unaccepted multiple applications. On completion and delivery of an application form accompanied by a cheque with conclusive warranty that the cheque will be honoured on first presentation, attention is drawn to the declaration in the application form to that effect. Applications will be irrevocable until 13th May, 1983. Photostat copies of application forms will not be accepted.
 - No person receiving a copy of this Prospectus or an application form from any territory other than the United Kingdom may treat the same as constituting an invitation to sell, nor should he in any event use such form, unless in the relevant territory such an invitation could lawfully be made to him or such form could lawfully be used without contravening any regulatory or other legal requirements. Any person viewing the United Kingdom working to make an application hereunder should satisfy himself as to observance of the laws of any relevant territory, including obtaining any requisite governmental or other consents or observing any other regulatory formalities.

Basis of Acceptance

Subject as aforesaid and as set out below, applications will be accepted on the following basis:

- All Shares for which applications are wholly or partly accepted will be sold at the same price (the "Striking Price").
- If applications are received for more than the total number of Shares offered, the Striking Price will not exceed the highest price at which sufficient applications (including applications at above that price) are received for the total number of Shares offered but may be a price lower than such highest price. If applications are received for less than the total number of Shares offered, the Striking Price will be the minimum tender price of 280p per Share. Subject to the foregoing, Morgan Grenfell will have complete discretion in deciding the Striking Price and the basis of allocation. In so deciding, Morgan Grenfell will have regard *inter alia* to the need to establish a satisfactory market in the Shares. No allocation will be made in respect of applications at prices below the Striking Price.
- Up to 150,000 Shares, which will be allocated at the Striking Price, are reserved in the first instance for applications from employees of the Company and its subsidiaries, other than persons who have agreed to sell Shares to Morgan Grenfell pursuant to the Offer for Sale. Such applications must be made on the special pink application forms which are being made available to such employees. These will specify the amount of money to be expended, rather than the number of Shares applied for and will be valid provided that the sum so specified is not more than £10,000. In the event of excess applications being received from such employees, the basis of allocation among them will be determined by Morgan Grenfell, at its discretion.
- The Striking Price and the basis of allocation will be announced on or as soon as possible after 4th May, 1983.

General

- Acceptance of applications will be conditional on the whole of the share capital of the Company, issued and now being issued, being admitted to the Official List of The Stock Exchange not later than 12th May, 1983. Money paid in respect of all applications will be returned if such condition is not satisfied by that date and in the meantime will be held by Barclays Bank PLC in a separate account.
- Renounceable Letters of Acceptance are expected to be despatched to successful applicants by 9th May, 1983. If any application is not accepted, or is accepted for fewer Shares than the number applied for, or is accepted at a lower price than that tendered, the application money or the balance of the amount paid on application will be returned by cheque through the post, in

Economic notebook

World recovery: a question of belief

The United States, Britain and Germany are now clearly leading a worldwide recovery. But is that recovery the full answer to the world's slump?

Amid the technical arguments over foreign exchange intervention and the best way to cope with world debt problems, there is a fundamental difference of opinion between the countries participating in the Williamsburg summit that is vital to the future of millions of people.

One group, led by the Americans, believes that what has happened since 1979 is a recession like any other, though too deep for comfort. Once the adjustments have been made and inflation has been beaten, there is no reason why the natural, soundly based upturn of economies should not take them back to their old healthy state, with "normal" growth rates and "normal" levels of employment. Quite logically, those who believe this - and believe in the operative word in this divide - think that the best thing to do now is to smooth present difficulties a little and leave it to nature. We should not rock the boat with dramatic reform schemes, just when things are starting to turn up.

The other group, led by Japan and France, takes a far less optimistic position. They believe that the world economy has suffered a basic shock with long-running repercussions. Output and trade will recover, but not enough to return to former long-term paths, to maintain the momentum of Third World development or to mop up unemployment.

One influential Japanese forecasting group, for instance, predicts that world output will grow an average of only 2.3 per cent a year for the rest of the eighties, high by historical standards but far below the boom of the sixties and seventies.

To cure the slump, we would have to overturn a raft of new difficulties. We must stabilize currencies, whose volatile and illogical relationships multiply business uncertainty, stifle trade and promote protection. We must cut interest rates, particularly the high inflation-adjusted rates, which are sustained by the US budget deficit and now threaten to act as a permanent overhang of the inflationary era, inhibiting

investment and growth. We must work out a once-and-for-all solution to the equally one-off world debt and banking problems, which threaten to force many developing countries into long years of retrenchment and to shrink world liquidity permanently. And we must make sensible long-term arrangements with oil-exporters and other commodity producers to prevent a new price upsurge from smothering recovery.

On this thinking, we shall simply end up in the stalemate of the thirties if we do not clear away the debris. Then, cyclical recoveries, especially in the United States, simply petered out with millions still on the dole and the world slump was only ended by war.

Since we cannot experiment with history, there is no knowing whether the world would have sprung back to prosperity and achieved high growth without Hitler's war. But that does not stop economists from arguing the point, usually through statistically obscure analyses of the Kondratieff theory that there are long waves in economic life.

Those who dismiss the existence of long waves, notably Professor Michael Beenstock, see the seventies oil shocks as an axe taken to the world economy, producing inflation and cuts in living standards but not fundamentally damaging the economic forces that will now allow us to start up again from a lower base.

Fans of Kondratieff's 50-year cycles, fortified by his correct prediction of both the thirties and eighties slumps, fall into two camps. One, without much credibility, simply suggests worldwide recession. The other, like the Japanese and French, wants to identify the structural features that give boom or slump momentum for a generation.

This seems a logical approach, but is not going to get anywhere at Williamsburg. President Reagan's advisers are already predicting a complete return to normality by 1988. Since the US has an effective veto on all international economic cooperation and reform, the rest of the world must simply hope that they are right.

Graham Searjeant

Information technology could make many buildings obsolete: Baron Phillips reports

Britain's tower blocks not designed for the office of the future

Thousands of millions of pounds of institutional investment could be at risk because the bulk of Britain's 44 million sq metres of office buildings are in danger of becoming prematurely obsolete.

This, at least, is the conclusion drawn from a study by design consultants operating under the off-putting initials of DEGW and EYSO who have examined the impact of information technology on the country's office blocks. In their opinion few buildings will be able to cope with future user demands.

The last five years have witnessed an explosion in the office technology market. Micro-computers and other desktop electronic wizardry are being increasingly installed and used by industry and commerce.

Despite the explosion, we have seen only the beginning of information technology era. Still, the property development industry has been slow to respond to the needs of the commercial space user.

At the heart of the Orbit study, as it is called, is the premise that most of the buildings which have been constructed over the past two decades or so will not convert easily to accommodate tenants' technology needs.

Apart from the great mass of technical details in the report two key elements stand out. First, floor to ceiling heights in many buildings are so mean that it would be impossible to construct a false floor and, therefore, allow room for the skein of cables and wiring the new equipment needs.

Buildings are now constructed with underfloor ducting - to allow flexible use of telephone and electrical points. But the study points out that in many cases there is simply not enough room to accommodate the extra cabling. Normally, it would be a simple enough process to raise the floor but "mean" ceiling heights will not allow this unless employees do not mind working in claustrophobic environment.

Strangely, it is the older buildings, which have generous ceiling heights, that can accommodate such conversion work without much rebuilding.

The second point covers the generally poor standard of air-conditioning in office blocks. There has long been heated discussion within the property development business over the pros and cons of including such a luxury item when the country

seldom faces the climatic extremes of say North America. In the end it has often simply boiled down to whether a high enough level can be obtained to justify inclusion of air-conditioning.

But in future, air-conditioning in offices will not be a luxury but essential environmental equipment. Groups of computers, word processors, and other pieces of electronic paraphernalia together generate a build up of heat and this will need to be quickly dispersed by air conditioners.

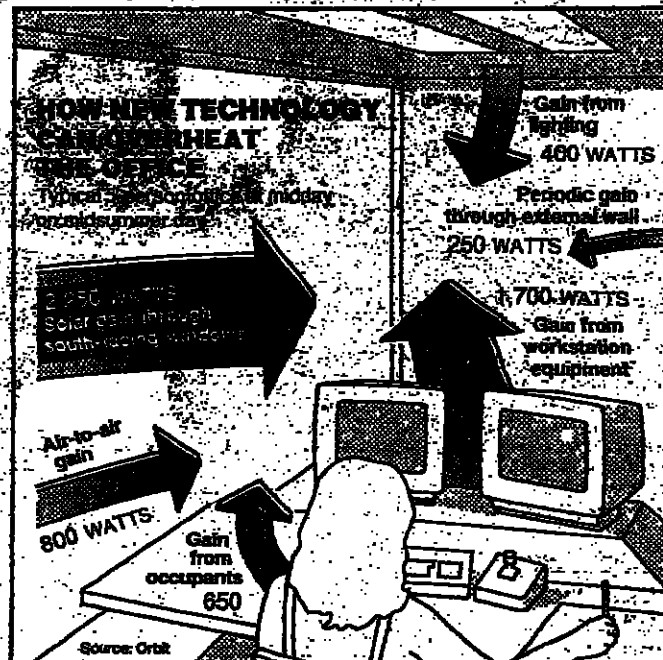
According to the report, the cost of adapting Britain's offices to respond to the extensive range of new technology requirements could be as high as £350 per sq metre of gross floorspace. This compares rather unfavourably with new construction costs that average £400 a sq metre.

The study points out: "It follows that many existing office buildings are in danger of premature obsolescence and that the cost of adapting such buildings may not be justifiable by normal investment criteria."

While that may greatly displease fund managers and property investment groups, there are a few more spanners to be thrown into the works which could upset the traditional tests for development.

Already, the demographic spread of office development is beginning to change, albeit slowly. Relocation has been a much-used and much-maligned term to describe tenants' dissatisfaction with office occupation costs, especially in Central London.

It now costs more than £50 a sq ft to occupy prime City space - made up of rents, rates and service charges. That compares with around £20 a sq ft for good provincial locations. A tenant occupying 100,000 sq ft of well-



located City space, therefore, has a basic overhead of more than £5m a year before he has paid any salaries or expense necessary to his business.

Perhaps this is why an increasing number of large corporations and multi-nationals are considering the relocation question extremely carefully. How large the exodus is depends on who you talk to but at times one is given the impression that a high proportion of large office space users are thinking about it.

One company which has decided to consolidate staff scattered around London in five buildings and bring them into one purpose-built block is Rank Xerox. It is proposing to build a new headquarters in Marlow, Buckinghamshire, which will be designed with the office of the future in mind.

The company admits there are few buildings which can take the cabling required for a local area network linking highly sophisticated workstations around the building.

As a manufacturer of high-technology office equipment Rank Xerox needed a building which could show off its products to the best advantage. What better than a fully operational office incorporating the latest advances in information technology.

The building will also include the most modern air conditioning and heating systems which not only will disperse the additional heat generated by the equipment but will store it for use the following day.

In the past, decision-taking on office location, both for the developer and the tenant, has been along fairly obvious lines:

proximity of the market place (banks and insurance brokers especially), ease of transport and communication links, and central location.

However, the thrust of the report is that the locational options are increasing as communications, chiefly electronic, progress and it states: "therefore there may be more decentralization and fewer large single tenancies in prime areas."

At the moment, it seems as though every office manager in London is jumping into his car and driving down the M4 in search of that idyllic country office location where costs are a third of the City of London. So bizzare is his vision that the stretch from Hammersmith to Bristol has been dubbed "The Western Corridor".

But is this the real long term answer? It would seem logical that most large corporations will want to retain some sort of presence in the capital: a slimmed down headquarters staff occupying small but technically efficient premises in the centre of London along the lines that ICI is proposing.

But what of the remaining staff? Will it be necessary to lump them all together in one custom designed building halfway down the M4 involving hefty relocation costs? Or is there another solution?

The report hints at what future demand for office space may be: fewer large units and a greater number of smaller more "human" buildings accommodating fewer staff in convenient locations.

Perhaps developers and funds should be considering the concept of small high specification office parks with buildings which can be broken down into small units capable of taking, for example, a large

company's accounts department, or sales and marketing office.

The problem facing the developers and property investors is how best to calculate future demands and requirements. The Orbit study suggests that tenants' choice will be governed more by a building's suitability to cope with new technology than with its location. At the moment the impact of information technology is still relatively small but its growth is likely to be extremely rapid over the next decade.

Property companies and landlords will be faced with the decision of whether the cost of bringing office blocks up to the standards required in the 21st century outweigh the cost of demolishing and starting again. Present lease structures may also have to come under scrutiny.

Tenants with long leases in front of them may have to renovate before the lease expires. Others may expect to renegotiate with their landlords to start new leases at rents which allow for refurbishment. Some occupiers may be prepared to cover this expenditure themselves and write off adaptation costs over time. In all cases rent reviews will be sharply renegotiated to recoup this unanticipated expense," the report comments.

All these factors affect another significant element in the equation - property values. How does one arrive at a valuation figure for a building which is on the verge of obsolescence or will cost a lot to bring it up to date?

Clearly, the property development industry must be reaching a watershed as it hastens to reassess its traditional values. Perhaps it is only a matter of time before concrete and glass monoliths like Centre Point and the NatWest Tower are converted into high-rise luxury apartments because it is easier, and cheaper, than knocking them down.

BERNARD MATTHEWS P.L.C.

	1982	1981
Sales	£2,000	£2,000
Profit before tax	62,711	53,510
Earnings per share	5,710	1,623
Ordinary dividends	29.77p	11.75p
	5.25p	4.375p

Extracts from the Chairman's Statement:

- *Record profits for 1982.
- *Dividends increased by 20% over 1981.
- *Prospects for 1983 encouraging.

Annual Report and Accounts available from the Secretary,
Bernard Matthews PLC, Gt. Wingham Hall, Norwich, NR9 5QD.

Jessel, Toynbee & Gillett plc

Bill Brokers and Bankers
Members of the London Discount Market Association

Results for Year Ended 5th April 1983

Profit is stated after providing for rebate, taxation, merger and all other expenses and after transfer to reserve for contingencies.

- Group Profit £2.2 m.
- Dividend - Proposed final 3.5p, making total distribution for year 5.5p (1982 Final 3.25p, Total 5.0p).
- Assets £575 m.
- Disclosed Shareholders Funds £11.5 m.

The Chairman Mr. M. R. Toynbee states:

- The amalgamation of Jessel Toynbee PLC and Gillett Brothers Discount Company PLC took effect on 10th January 1983.
- It has been a profitable year in spite of difficult markets in the second half.
- Inner Reserves have been increased substantially.
- The merger has been accomplished very successfully and the benefits of reduced costs are already evident.
- The current year has started satisfactorily.

This advertisement is published by Morgan Grenfell & Co. Limited on behalf of BTR plc and is based on share prices as at 31 March 1973 and 31 March 1983.

SURPRISING

The record speaks for itself.
£1,000 cash in 1973 increased by the Retail Price Index would represent £3,600 today.
But the same £1,000 invested in Tilling is now worth only £1,300.
Compare these with £1,000 invested in BTR - now worth £22,000.

£22,000

BTR

£3,600

CASH

£1,300

TILLING

BTR - Tilling
There's no comparison.

BTR

BACK THE BTR BID

The directors of BTR plc (including those who have delegated detailed supervision of this advertisement) have taken all reasonable care to ensure that the facts stated and opinions expressed herein are fair and accurate and each of the directors accepts responsibility accordingly.

مكتبة الشاه

De Beers

The diamond industry has come successfully through a very testing time.



Mr Harry Oppenheimer,
Chairman of De Beers Consolidated Mines.

The year 1982 was another very difficult one. De Beers' earnings including the retained profits of associated companies – but before its R14.9 million share of the extraordinary losses of associates – were R442.5 million or 123 cents a share, that is 30 per cent less than the R628.3 million earned in 1981. Excluding the Company's share of the retained profits of associates, profits were R202.5 million or 56.3 cents a share compared with R363.8 million or 101 cents the previous year, a reduction of 44 per cent. Dividends for the year totalled 37.5 cents a share against 50 cents in 1981.

Future prospects

These figures are in themselves disappointing. Nevertheless I am now able to report much more optimistically about future prospects than at the time of my last annual statement. While sales by the Central Selling Organisation (CSO) for the year as a whole at \$1,257 million were \$215 million or 15 per cent less than in 1981, sales in the second half of the year were higher than in the first six months of 1982 or the last six months of 1981. This reflected a significant improvement in the demand for smaller sizes and cheaper qualities, although the market for the larger and better qualities remains depressed. In September last year prices of the more saleable sizes and qualities were raised, resulting in an average increase overall of 2.5 per cent, which was well received by the market. During 1982 there was a further reduction in the stocks held in the cutting centres and a shortage of the popular qualities of rough is now apparent. From January onwards the demand for cheaper qualities increased further and expanded to some extent into the higher categories. CSO sales are at present considerably higher than in the second half of last year, though still limited by a restricted market for the larger sizes and better qualities. At the end of March the CSO announced a further selective increase in prices, averaging 3.5 per cent overall.

Confidence has been restored in the market and it is reasonable to expect that as general economic conditions improve,

Extracts from the Chairman's Statement 1982

particularly in the United States, demand will continue to grow and to broaden into the higher qualities. Retail sales of diamond jewellery in 1982 were only three per cent lower than in 1981, which was a record year, and Christmas sales were considerably better than had been anticipated.

Mood more optimistic

As a result the mood in the retail market is more optimistic than it has been for some time. While a rapid return to prosperous conditions is not to be expected it can, I think, be said that short of a further setback in the world economy a solid base has been established from which a gradual improvement in sales and profits can reasonably be hoped for.

The diamond industry has come successfully through a very testing time, and had it not been for the willingness and ability of the CSO to protect the trade by reducing offerings to the market at the cost of accumulating exceptionally large stocks, the outcome would have been very different. Our stocks now stand at R1,832 million, and in accordance with our established policy we will liquidate them gradually, as the market is able to absorb them.

The part played by the CSO is generally appreciated in the trade and it may perhaps be regarded as a sign of confidence in our organisation that companies in the CRA Limited and Ashton Mining Limited groups are marketing their 95 per cent interest in the gem and 75 per cent of their 'cheap gem' and 'industrial' production from the new Argyle mine in Western Australia under a long-term contract with the CSO, and further that the Government of Zaire has recently judged it to be in its best interest to renew its old-established relationship with us. The diamond industry, because of the nature of its product, is in many ways unique, and co-operation on a fair and reasonable basis between the major producers is necessary for its stability. It follows that the higher the proportion of world production that is marketed through a single channel, the more effectively the CSO can protect the interests of all concerned, whether as diamond producers, cutters and dealers, retail jewellers or as the ultimate owners of diamond jewellery.

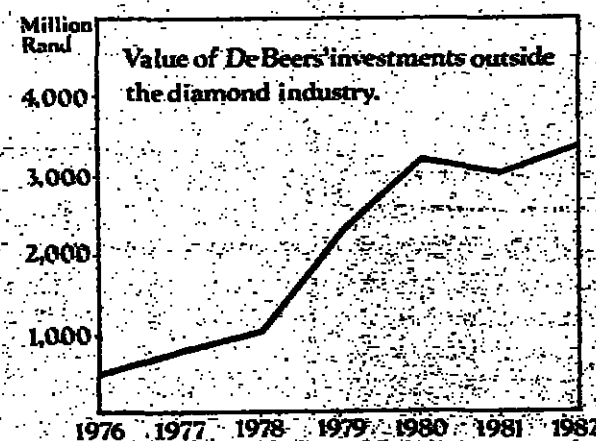
Industrial diamonds

For the second year in succession sales of industrial diamonds declined marginally because of the continued economic recession of the United States, Western Europe and, to a lesser extent Japan. Here again there are now signs of the beginning of a return to more normal conditions.

Diamond production from the mines of the Group, including Debswana – which is

owned in equal partnership with the Government of Botswana – amounted to 17,399,815 carats compared with 15,438,282 carats in 1981. Of the 1982 total, 2,621,643 carats were from the new Jwaneng mine in Botswana which was brought to production during the year. Excluding, for the sake of comparison, this new production, there was a reduction of four per cent in Group output to 14,778,172 carats. Efforts to contain costs and to keep capital expenditure to an absolute minimum were continued.

In Botswana production from the Orapa and Letlhakane mines was slightly higher at 5,147,196 carats, and with the completion of the Jwaneng mine the Group's total production capacity has reached the planned figure of 19 million carats a year. It is interesting to note that measured by the value of potential output from installed capacity the South African mines of the De Beers Group still make up the biggest individual producer in the Western world, followed by Debswana and CDM.



I have already mentioned that the Government of Zaire has decided to renew the association that it had with the CSO for many years until its termination two years ago. A contract has been signed in terms of which the CSO will be responsible for marketing the production of the Miba mine and we have further undertaken to review with the mining company and the Government measures to restore production – which has been much reduced in recent

years – to a level which would reflect the real potential of the deposit. The majority of the Miba diamonds are similar in quality to those that will be produced from the Argyle mine in Australia, and the marketing of both outputs through the same channel will be to the benefit of the two producers and the diamond industry as a whole.

Exploration continued actively throughout the year in Africa, Australia and South America but no new discoveries of importance were made.

In the field of employment practices we believe that the broader participation which is being achieved in the negotiation of conditions of employment, and in regular consultation on matters of common interest, is making a positive contribution to the development of a sounder employment relationship. An important milestone was reached with the participation, in the Kimberley Division, of trades unions representing our black employees at the 1982 wage negotiations.

The Company is maintaining its commitment to training and developing employees at all levels, both in the interests of optimal staff utilisation, and to open up equal employment and advancement opportunities.

Investments soundly based

The value of our investments outside the diamond industry at the year-end was nearly R3,400 million. These investments are soundly based and well diversified both geographically and in respect of the different sectors of the economy in which they have been made. On account of this De Beers has a wider and more stable base and the strength of our entire structure is greatly increased.

On 24th August 1982 Mr. J. Ogilvie Thompson was appointed Deputy Chairman of the Board. Mr. Ogilvie Thompson became a director in December 1966 and over the years since then has come to play an increasingly important part in the administration of the Group and in the framing of its policy. In his new position he will be still better placed to apply his great talents and knowledge in the service of our Company and the diamond industry.

De Beers Consolidated Mines Limited

Incorporated in the Republic of South Africa

For the full Report & Accounts for 1982 including the Chairman's Statement, please send this coupon to The London Secretaries, Room 2, 40 Holborn Viaduct, London EC1A 1AJ.

Name _____

Company _____

Address _____

De Beers

Law Report April 28, 1983 Queen's Bench Division

[illegible]

Secretary of State for the Environment (1971) 23 P & CR 330), the use was not permissible under regulation 3(1).

The black man they lionized is sent to grass

A candle of truth is flickering to life in the South African sun

Cape Town. Something unique was happening the other day which the United Nations would never believe unless they saw it with their own eyes. I had to rub my own.

It was a revealing experience to be at Stellenbosch among a crowd of 10,000 as they repeatedly rose to their feet to applaud the winners in the Nedbank-sponsored Prestige athletics meeting, winners who were mobbed by diminutive autograph hunters and embraced by the vanquished.

Nothing remarkable in all that, you may say, until you know that two of the winners, Freddie Williams, in the 800 metres and Matswe Temane in the 5,000 metres, are in the terminology of this allegedly most racist nation on earth, respectively Coloured and black. Indeed, the first four home in the 5,000 metres were black.

Memory

The autograph hunters, many of them under 12, who were demonstrating with that natural spontaneity of children the admiration for any athlete who runs faster than his rival, were predominantly white and they have given me what cannot fail to be my most enduring sporting memory of 1983. In this beautiful, hated country there burns a candle of truth: there is hope yet.

Williams, succeeding the brilliant Sydney Maree as black national hero, is the first Coloured man in athletics to be awarded Springbok colours, the revered green blazer which must compensate for the moment for international isolation. After he had beaten Colin Lambert the white man congratulated him with a warmth as genuine as the excitement in the eyes of the children - no hollow tokenism.

A busload of supporters from Heathfield, a Coloured suburb of Cape Town, and dozens of cars had travelled to cheer their man at Stellen-

bosch, which is the Afrikaaner heart of the Broderbond, the feared secret cartel which is said to control every Nationalist Government.

Yet, temporary sick from his second big race in three days, Williams went to the first-aid room, where he was carefully tended by white medics. When a superb evening, dominated by the sensational tiny 16-year-old girl Zola Budd with a world-class 5,000 came to a close and the crowd had dispersed, Williams and Temane, having run a lap of honour with their white Springbok colleagues while a main tribune bristling with Cabinet Ministers applauded, a white woman of 20 or so stood patiently waiting for a Coloured man to pack his kitbag so that she might get her programme signed. South Africa is not changing: it has changed.

The radical, non-racial bodies - the South African Council of Sport within the country, the Supreme Council for Sport in Africa, and the London-based South African Non-Racial Olympic Committee - which prechatter the international sporting blockade of this country will tell you that all attempts by the Government to establish multinational sport are mere window-dressing to disguise the same, continuing regime of discriminatory laws.

We drove, I and the other Coloured man who for almost a week had been my companion and guide and encyclopedia of South African racial history, to the Stellenbosch city hall for a reception. Leaving aside the fraternization of Coloured and white athletes such as you might see at any international event, more significantly there was that same talk about their children by Daphne Williams and the other white wives, such as would take place in any pavilion after any match anywhere in Britain: women

wishing to discuss their experiences for a change instead of their husbands.

I trust I am no naive short-term foreign visitor pretending that this small illustration in a relatively exclusive circumstance is in any way representative of the situation of the 20 million blacks in South Africa today. But, as I will endeavour to explain in subsequent articles, what I have learnt in some 30 or more interviews and meetings with individuals and organizations is that, contrary to the convictions of the United Nations, the international sporting federations and world-wide Left-wing groups, there is a case to be reopened, debated and judged on sport as it relates to South African life, black and white, sporting and non-sporting.

I can no longer accept, as I did until a week ago, that the total deaf ear and absolute exclusion of South Africa is any longer necessary in the best interests of the black South Africans, in sport or beyond, and indeed the black and Coloured population are divided on this question. What is depressing is that white South Africa, the majority of whom outside Government acknowledge the inhumanities of the past and even of the present, are still capable of making tactical blunders.

Exceptional

The focal point of the city hall reception was to announce the 10 outstanding athletes who, after a season of exceptional performance in which 36 South African athletic records have been set, are nominated to travel to Helsinki in August as observers of the world championships from which their talents are banned. Two of those places are being sponsored by a television channel



Maree: one more stride for integrated man

on condition that one is filled by a black athlete.

So excited were the officials of the South African Amateur Athletic Union - non-racial in concept and principle but predominantly white administered - by the many excellent performances on Monday night that, judging strictly on merit, they announced an all-white squad as follows:

Johan Venter (mile, 3 min 52.3 sec); Wessel Oosthuizen (100m and 200m, 10.29 sec and 20.1); Hennie Koetse (400 hurdles, 49.26); Carl Reinach (400m, 45.01); Johan Oosthuizen (400m, 45.32); Ludwig Myburgh (400m, 45.32); Nolte Meintjies (3,000 steeplechase, 8 min 21.72 sec); Charmaine Rick (400 hurdles, 55.49 sec); Ilean Venter (800m, 1 min 59.39 sec); Myrtle Simpson (400m, 51.89 sec).

In the heat of the moment the committee had overlooked the subscribed black place and hurriedly added two more names to bring the elite squad

up to 12, including Temane, thereby presenting themselves with an additional bill for £1,500 in expenses. Williams, their black Springbok, could not find a place with his personal best as South African champion of 1 min 46.6 sec and the SAAAU are looking around anxiously for a sponsor for this fine athlete who had no coaching and ran on rough grass until he was 17.

It was inconceivable that, on the one hand making such a bold gesture to let the outside world know that they are, athletically speaking, alive and kicking, the SAAAU should miss the opportunity to emphasize to their enemies that they are truly integrated in athletics, if nothing else. To have bent a point to include black athletes, irrespective of the finer points of merit, was surely in their interest. I would have supposed they would welcome accusations of prejudice in that direction.

The rugby union man with a foot in two camps

White's emotions in a maul

The Rugby Union's technical administrator for the south and south-west will be in London on Saturday, occupying that sometimes comfortable, sometimes awkward position, of having a foot in both camps. The John Player Cup final at Twickenham brings together Leicester, the club which "Chalkie" White coached for 15 years, and Bristol, one of the three senior clubs in the "parish" which White took over four months ago.

Technically, White will be representing Bristol as his area's leading senior representative. Emotionally (and technically - he is a very analytical man), he will be much involved with Leicester's performance. It will be the first time in five years that they have played in a final without Dusty Hare, the England full back, and Garry Aday, the former England No 8, who was persuaded out of retirement to take part in the club's last final in 1981.

It is the absence of Hare, who is resting before the Lions' tour of New Zealand, and the crop of recent injuries suffered by Leicester, which White regards as the impediments in a game which has the makings of a thriller. "But the chemistry of the game has got to be right," he says with an emphasis on one of whose dispensary a variety of players have acquired the ingredients which have helped make them international. "There is enough ability in both sides to play the game wide. All four wingers are men who know what it is like to win games, but the desire to play the game wide has got to be there."

"Bristol's build-up has been very good indeed. They have been used to winning away from home. Leicester's has been a little bit less successful - there have been one or two recent games. Pontypool, for instance, they would have loved to win, but did not. But there are so many facets you have to get right to play well, and some of these facets are not under the control of the players once they get onto the field. The chemistry has been right for Leicester before. In 1979, when they scored 40 points in a semi-final against Wasp, this year, when they scored 30 points against London Scottish in the semi-final. But finally, in any competition, are seldom the showpieces. The sports administrators would like the desire to win, after so much hard work, is paramount among the players, and the difference between a memorable game and a hard slog can sometimes be the sort of push-in which a place kicker of Hare's ability provides, either through penalty goals or by making a four-point try worth six points.

Bristol, as White points out, are inexperienced in midfield, even



White: "the chemistry has got to be right"

though the arrival of Stuart Barnes has increased their ability in that area. All three are under 21 and possessed of enormous potential compared with the proven international experience of Cusworth, "Dodge" and Woodward. "Whether Barnes has played enough with Hogg and Knibbs to get the best out of them remains to be seen," White said. "They have some formidable material among the forwards, and I saw them score three push-over tries against all people. Gloucester in an evening game this year."

"Bristol's two flankers are the best of their kind around, but in some ways, Bristol play a betwixt-and-between game. They do not adapt to a tight game very easily. There is no doubt that their players have the ability to do so, but it does not appear to come easily to them."

"And there is experience of the occasion, which may tell in Leicester's favour. Many of Bristol's players have taken part in county championship finals for Gloucestershire, but it's not the same. In this year's county final, Yorkshire came to Bristol and tried to play the game according to their strength, and for an hour, Gloucestershire weren't very sure how to cope. Twickenham is yet another dimension: there is a razzmatazz associated with the Cup final. It all adds little bits of problems for players. There are six

people in the Leicester side who have not experienced it, three in the backs and three in the forwards, but they are spread among the players who have been through it all before."

"The best is yet to come from Leicester. The most important part of their future is the recruitment of players. If you are looking for the top, that must be your number one priority, and players will join you more readily if they like the style you adopt. Bath in the West Country appreciates that - people want to join Bath now. But Bristol and Gloucester should always reach the semi-finals of the Cup at least, if the draw doesn't put them together, because of the huge amount of talent they have to draw on."

White expects his old club to win on Saturday. He discounts the kind of motivation suggested by Cusworth's rejection by England, by Dodge's disappointment at missing the Lions' tour, the desire by such players to prove a point. "No player goes out to play anything other than well, and once he's on the field, everything else is forgotten. It's how he reacts to what's happening around him that counts. Leicester have more to offer in that respect than Bristol, but they have to bring it with them. It's no use if they leave it behind at Welford Road."

David Hands

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High-flying Favourite to lower the French flag

By Michael Phillips, Racing Correspondent

In the 28 years that Geoffrey Wragg assisted his father, Harry, he was party to their stable winning six English classics with Darius, Abernethy, Full Dress II, On The House, Psidium and Intermex. Now after that lengthy apprenticeship he looks poised to add a seventh to the family haul, this time in his own right as a trainer, by winning the 1,000 Guineas at Newmarket today with Favourite.

Three of his father's greatest triumphs were gained in this same classic so plenty of family know-how will have gone into Favourite's preparation this spring which centred around the Nell Gwyn Stakes over seven furlongs on today's course, a fortnight ago.

As trials go that particular race has been more helpful than most in recent years. In fact it has pointed to Flying Water, One In A Million and Farn Footsteps all winning the 1,000 as well. And the stylish way that Favourite won the Nell Gwyn left me with the unshakable belief that she too could go on to even greater things in today's classic.

Yet to fancy her you have to fly in the face of the form book as she was beaten three-quarters of a length by the French filly and today's favourite, Ma Biche, in the Chevely Park

Stakes at Newmarket last autumn. This I am prepared to do because I'm convinced, and I am not alone in this conviction, that Pat Eddery made one of his rare tactical errors that day when he turned up Favourite's speed in getting to grips with Ma Biche, instead of lying up with her early on and using that pace to pass her when the race came to the boil.

Eddery did so only because he believed at the time that he might not last six furlongs but any lingering doubt on that score was banished a fortnight ago when she won most majestically over seven furlongs. "She'll stay a 11 right, provided that she is ridden right," were Wragg's prophetic words before the Nell Gwyn and now I expect them to ring true yet again.

Wragg's contention that Favourite will stay a mile is certainly borne out by a study of her pedigree as she is by a horse who won two of the three legs of the American triple crown (one of the three legs of the American triple crown (one of those was over a mile and a half), and more who won the Irish 1,000 Guineas.

Furthermore, Wragg is adamant that Favourite is such a relaxed individual that she can be put anywhere in a race, at any time, and it will not matter

if she is up with the pace just behind the leaders early on because she can be switched off. That too is in her favour because she has been drawn 11. With the starting stalls placed on the far side of the Rowley Mile course, and the draw numbering from left to right, Eddery will be able to pick and choose from them in a field of 18 and bide his time until the moment is right to strike.

From his draw also he will be in the ideal position to keep an eye on Freddie Head and Ma Biche, who is arguably his main rival, certainly on form. They have been drawn 10 right alongside. Like Favourite, Ma Biche also made a winning start to the season, although her victory at Maisons-Laffitte was less convincing.

Royal Heron and Ski Sailing are what my colleagues, Michael Seely, likes to describe as the thinking man's each-way bets. Royal Heron was third to Favourite in the Nell Gwyn and runner-up to Habbitt in the Lowther Stakes at York last August, each time staying on nicely towards the end and crying out that a mile would be well within her range. On paper she looks much more capable to stay a mile than Habbitt who ran like a sprinter in the Fred Darling Stakes at Newbury 13 days ago.

Vying for interest with the Guineas today is the Heathorn Stakes which already boasts the name of one so accomplished as Shirley Heights in its relatively



Favourite: stylish victory in the Nell Gwyn Stakes two weeks ago

Ski Sailing has not run this year but that should not deter anyone from backing her because her trainer Barry Hills knows his job well, and it was he who produced Etonstone Spark, who also by way of a coincidence, also won the Ski Sailing's owner, Dick Bonnyville, to win this classic six years ago.

Vying for interest with the Guineas today is the Heathorn Stakes which already boasts the name of one so accomplished as Shirley Heights in its relatively

short history. With Dunbeath, Hasty Firt, Shearwalk, Zoffany, Society Boy and Morcon all standing their ground, today's race looks every bit as riveting as the one in which Shirley Heights just pipped Le de Bourbon in 1977.

Following that fluent victory in the William Hill Futurity at Doncaster last October Dunbeath is currently favourite, or second favourite, for the Derby in the bookmakers' lists. But in the wake of a slight setback earlier this spring when he

sprang a curb (pulled a slight muscle in a hind leg) Dunbeath is not quite as forward as Henry Cecil would have wished. In the circumstances, no one should be surprised if not only he but Shearwalk and Zoffany as well fail to give 11lb to Morcon.

This is a considerable concession and if this Morston colt is destined to develop into a serious challenger for top honours later he must surely strike now and take full advantage of these advantageous terms.

1,000 Guineas field

301	00-0	ACORAS PREDICTION gr f Scallywag - Royal Ribston (Mrs J Sheehan) M Hayes 9-0	J. Jenkins
302	12332-2	ANNE EDGE ch f Nabblo - Friendly Court (Mrs A Daniels) D H Jones 9-0	R. Duffell
303	11212-1	Dark green, yellow stars, yellow sleeves and cap CHERRY OF PASSION ch f Dragonara Palace - Carillon (C Wright) D Laing 9-0	G. Duffell
304	10212-0	Royal blue and white hoops, royal blue sleeves, light blue cap BAIKONG MISS ch f Anthea's Dance - Concorville (P Goulding) D Laing 9-0	J. Merrell
305	1212-1	Emerald green, royal blue, white sleeves, quartered cap FAVORITE ch f Five Ridge - Parollette (E Moller) G Wragg 9-0	P. Eddery
306	1114-4	Chocolate, gold braid and sleeves, quartered cap FLAMENCO ch f Dance Spell - Santiago (Sheikh Mohammed) I Belding 9-0	P. Cook
307	1111-1	Light blue and dark blue stripes, red sleeves and cap HABBIT ch f Habbitt - Kianessa (M Mulla) J Dupont 9-0	W. Carson
308	11123-3	HENRY'S SECRET ch f Solius - Katie Cecil (Sheikh Mohammed) M Stoute 9-0	S. Starkey
309	03411-0	White, green and yellow striped sleeves, yellow, white quartered cap INDIAN LADY ch f African Sky - Engage (Earl Commendation) G Lewis 9-0	P. Waldron
310	4-3	LA BRIGATA ch f Habat - Winona (D McIntyre) J Winter 9-0	B. Taylor
311	1131-1	MA BICHE ch f Key To The Kingdom - Madge (Muller) M Hayes 9-0	F. Head
312	2114-0	Red, royal blue, white hoops, light blue cap MIRA'S BEST ch f Pampalao - Nether (R Sangster) R Williams 9-0	L. Piggott
313	13302-2	Emerald green, royal blue, white cap, green spots OCTAVIA GIRL ch f Octavo - Jana Shaw (C Ventimiglia) D Bawent 9-0	R. P. Jones
314	23101-1	Blue and yellow stripes, white sleeves and cap RARE ROBERTA ch f Octavo - Melkessa (Gifford Stud Ltd) P Cole 9-0	G. Quinn
315	4112-3	Brown, white chevron and cap brown spots ROYAL HERON ch f Lyphard - My Sierra Leone (R Sangster) M Stoute 9-0	W. R. Swinburn
316	02-1	Emerald green, royal blue, white cap SHORE LINE ch f High Line - Dark Pine (R Barnett) H Candy 9-0	W. Newman
317	21-1	Cherry, black and white quartered cap SKI SAILING ch f Royal Ski - Space Sailing (R Bonnyville) S Belding 9-0	J. Tye
318	03-121	SOLIMILE ch f Solius - My Mile (L. Norris) P. Kelloway 9-0	A. J. Eddery

5-2 Ma Biche, 3 Favourite, 6 Royal Heron, 10 Habbitt, Ski Sailing, Shore Line, 12 Annie Edge, 16 Myra Best, 20 Flamenco, 33 others.

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Icing on the cake for Dickinson

The champion National Hunt trainer Michael Dickinson broke Arthur Stephenson's record of 114 winners trained in a season when Prince of Wales won the Crisp Novices Chase at Perth yesterday. It ended an 18-day wait for Dickinson since Sabon de Lior won at Liverpool to equal the record, set in the 1969-70 season.

Dickinson was not at Perth to see his odds-on chance win by three-quarters of a length from King-Lion. But afterwards at his dressing room he said: "This puts the icing on the cake for what has been a marvellous season. Although this is our first winner for 18 days, most of our horses have been roughed out and we only have six left to run. We are going to keep right on to the end of the season with them, and I hope to end up with a total of around 120 winners."

The record is another milestone to the incredible career of Dickinson, whose other great achievement this season was training the first five of his 100 winners, the first of which was the Cheltenham Gold Cup.

Perth results

2:15 p.m. First April (4-2) 10 furlongs (10-11) 11-12	2:45 p.m. West Ayr (2-2) 2 furlongs (10-11) 11-12
3:15 p.m. All England (14-1) 2 furlongs (10-11) 11-12	3:45 p.m. Prince of Wales (14-1) 2 furlongs (10-11) 11-12
4:15 p.m. Prince of Wales (14-1) 2 furlongs (10-11) 11-12	4:45 p.m. Prince of Wales (14-1) 2 furlongs (10-11) 11-12
5:15 p.m. Prince of Wales (14-1) 2 furlongs (10-11) 11-12	5:45 p.m. Prince of Wales (14-1) 2 furlongs (10-11) 11-12

Haydock doubt

Racing at Haydock on Saturday is in jeopardy. The clerk of the course Philip Arkright said: "There will be an inspection at 3.0 today to determine the prospects. At the moment the course is untraceable and the forecast is gloomy."

Yesterday's meeting at Catnic Bridge was called off because of waterlogging.

"Horse will miss Saturday's 2,000 guineas. He is a bit of a wimp," said Michael Dickinson. "I worked Horse this morning and he went well, but walking away from the gallop he was not moving as well as I would like. If I ran him at Newmarket it could do him permanent damage and I shall concentrate on the Irish Guineas instead."

Favourite was laid to lose £75,000 with Ladbrokes for the 1,000 Guineas and is now 3-1 joint favourite with Ma Biche.

STATE OF GOING: Newmarket: good. Haydock: heavy. Haydock: soft. Tomorrows: variable. Forecast: heavy.

3.30 GORDON RAMSAY HUNTER CHASE (entire male) (25) 25-30

1. 101 Villed City 7-12-10 - B. Stoney 4
2. 300 West Ayr 6-11-10 - J. Duggan 7
3. 204 Villed City 7-12-10 - B. Stoney 4
4. 204 Villed City 7-12-10 - B. Stoney 4
5. 204 Villed City 7-12-10 - B. Stoney 4
6. 204 Villed City 7-12-10 - B. Stoney 4
7. 204 Villed City 7-12-10 - B. Stoney 4
8. 204 Villed City 7-12-10 - B. Stoney 4
9. 204 Villed City 7-12-10 - B. Stoney 4
10. 204 Villed City 7-12-10 - B. Stoney 4

Rest of the Newmarket programme

3.45 and 4.50.

Draws: 24.281: 1m) (30 runners)

101	ACCUSED (E. Kneale) 8-10	J. Piggott	10
102	ACCUSED (E. Kneale) 8-10	J. Piggott	10
103	ACCUSED (E. Kneale) 8-10	J. Piggott	10
104	ACCUSED (E. Kneale) 8-10	J. Piggott	10
105	ACCUSED (E. Kneale) 8-10	J. Piggott	10
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La crème de la crème

Male Executive Secretaries

c. \$1400 Tax Free

+ substantial benefits in Saudi Arabia

Whittaker has been responsible for the management and staffing of a number of important hospital projects in the Middle East since 1974.

Joining our project office in Riyadh on a one or two year contract, you would have the chance to enjoy a new life style and discover a totally different culture while in the company of English-speaking medical and hospital support staff from all over the world.

You must have a good standard of education and at least 1 year's formal secretarial training, followed by at least 2 years commercial experience working at executive level. Top short-hand and typing skills are essential as are experience of audio, and word processing - the latter preferably on AEs.

It goes without saying that you'll need an excellent command of the English language.

In addition to the tax free salaries quoted (paid in US dollars and converted in this instance at a rate of US\$1.57 = £1.00) you will receive a wide range of benefits including end-of-contract bonus, free furnished accommodation, mid-year holiday allowance, 7 weeks holiday, return air fare and free recreation facilities.

If you hold a UK or Irish passport, are aged 21 or over, and have the required experience, phone Irene Cooper or Michelle Chudley on 01-434 1081, alternatively write to Whittaker Life Sciences Limited, Freeport 35, London W1E 5QZ. Please quote ref E362.

DEDICATED TO A WORLD OF HEALTH
Whittaker
LIFE SCIENCES LIMITED

Secretary to Director of Management Services

The promotion of the present holder of this post leads us to seek an experienced secretary, able to transcribe quickly and accurately from Audio and, but less essentially, shorthand. Applicants should have a good memory, intelligence and a methodical mind and be able to work on their own initiative. An interest in modern technology, in particular word processing, would be an asset. Experience of an IBM Displaywriter would be an advantage but is not essential as training will be given.

The work is particularly interesting because it gives a wide insight into one of the leading food and department store retailers.

PAY: £7,700 - £8,200

Staff Benefits include:

- Profit sharing scheme
- 4 weeks and 3 days holiday
- Shopping discount in our department stores and Waitrose Supermarkets
- Subsidised dining room

Please write or telephone for a job description and application form to: Mrs A. Baker, Assistant Staff Manager Central, John Lewis Partnership, 10 Clippstone Street, London, W1A 3DF. Tel: 01-637 3434 Ext. 5783/4.



John Lewis Partnership

INTERNATIONAL COMPANY

with prestigious West One office require

ARTICULATE AND RESPONSIBLE PERSON

With good word processor skills, preferably Display Writer. Successful applicant will be enthusiastic, able to work with minimum supervision & have the ability to supervise & set up systems. Willingness to learn & take on additional responsibilities. Such as training future WP operators essential. Salary negotiable. Excellent benefits. Tel: 01-488 5500.

GERMANY c. £9,500

Your English must be to Mother tongue standard and excellent in both languages if you are to join the headquarters of this major German Company. The offices are magnificent and at least only 5 miles from the town centre are in lovely rural surroundings. It will be a long life leading with a happy life. Translations and many interesting tasks. Ring 01-491 7100 (Recruitment Consultants)

International Secretaries
A job to find better!

International Appointments

Ministry of Energy NEW ZEALAND

is seeking Qualified Engineers to fill positions in its Head Office Organisation in Wellington

VACANCY NUMBER 1813

Senior Petroleum Engineer (Exploration and Production)

The successful applicant will be responsible to the Chief Petroleum Engineer and will assist in the administration of safety provisions of statutes and regulations relating to petroleum exploration and production operations, particularly at petroleum wells and processing plants.

(a) Duties
Inspect petroleum exploration and production facilities for safe practices in design, construction and operation. Conduct engineering and other studies as directed. Prepare reports as required. The work will also involve liaison with professional and management staff of the oil industry and will include advice to the government of New Zealand and the Minister of Energy on technical matters connected with petroleum prospecting, and the development of petroleum production. Travel throughout New Zealand will be required.

(b) Qualifications Required
An appropriate university engineering degree or the possession of equivalent educational qualifications is necessary and professional experience acceptable to the New Zealand Engineers Registration Board for registration is required. Appropriate experience in oil exploration/production operations is essential.

(c) Remuneration

Basic salary is currently NZ\$30,977 per annum rising to NZ\$35,158 per annum on merit.

VACANCY NUMBER 1814

Petroleum Engineer (Pipelines) (Two Required)

The successful applicants will be responsible to the Chief Petroleum Engineer and will assist in the administration of the safety provisions of statutes and regulations relating to high pressure pipelines for natural gas, liquid petroleum and dangerous goods.

(a) Duties
Inspect high pressure cross country pipelines for safe practices in design, construction and operation. Conduct engineering and other studies as directed. Prepare reports as required.

The work will also include the provision of advice to the Government of New Zealand and the Minister of Energy on technical matters relating to high pressure pipelines for natural gas, liquid petroleum and dangerous goods. Liaison at all levels with professional staff in the oil industry and travel throughout New Zealand will be necessary.

(b) Qualifications Required
An appropriate university engineering degree or the possession of equivalent educational qualifications is necessary and professional experience acceptable to the New Zealand Engineers Registration Board for registration is required. Experience in all aspects of high pressure cross country pipeline design, construction and operation is desirable.

(c) Remuneration

Basic salary is currently NZ\$29,231 rising to NZ\$30,977 on merit.

(d) Location

Wellington (the capital city of New Zealand) is located on rolling hill country with a large and beautiful harbour. All sporting and recreation facilities are available within easy reach.

FOR APPLICATION FORMS AND FURTHER INFORMATION, APPLY TO:

Chief Migration Officer,
(Imm 2/344/2),
New Zealand High Commission,
Haymarket,
London SW1Y 4TQ

Closing date for applications is May 20th 1983.

SECRETARY/ADMINISTRATOR

c. £7,250

Our busy Business Education Division needs a capable person to act as Secretary to the General Manager who is responsible for the promotion and organisation of around 100 seminars a year throughout the UK, as well as residential and Correspondence Courses.

Apart from normal secretarial duties the work will involve assisting in the administration of the events and involvement in the marketing aspects of the Division.

This position offers excellent career prospects and the Division is relatively new and still developing. Applicants should possess good secretarial skills and be able to work on their own initiative in a position which is constantly under pressure to meet deadlines.

If interested, please write enclosing a CV to: Miss G. F. Nash, Personnel Officer, Dun & Bradstreet Limited, 26/32 Clifton Street, London EC2P 2LY. Or telephone for an application form on 01-377 4377. Ext. 4207.

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PA/EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

SOFTSOL, dynamic British subsidiary of America's largest distributors of personal computer software, seeks top-notch PA/Executive Secretary for its Managing Director.

The successful candidate should have the following qualifications:

- Higher Education
- Strong Secretarial skills - Shorthand & typing
- Initiative, tenacity and dedication to work
- Fluency in French or German
- Unfailing sense of humour
- Warm, outgoing personality
- Ability and will to work long, hard hours
- At least 5 years experience

Excellent salary and conditions will be offered to the right candidate. Please apply to:

SOFTSOL, COMPUTER PRODUCTS LTD,
CENTRAL WAY, FELTHAM, MIDDLESEX TW10 0DD, Enabling CV.

Secretary in Sales Promotion

Sales Promotion Agency (Associate Company of International Advertising Agency) seek secretary P.A. to Managing Director and his team.

Small hectic division requiring quick, energetic, capable secretary. Sound skills, must enjoy hard work - 35 years.

Please write or telephone Personnel Department,
Foots, Cone and Building Ltd, 82 Baker St, London, W1
01-935 4426 NO AGENCIES

PA-ARCHITECTS to £8,000

Confidence will be paramount in the successful applicant for this position. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day to day running of the office, including the preparation of correspondence, reports, and other documents. The successful candidate will also be responsible for the day to day running of the office, including the preparation of correspondence, reports, and other documents.

PA WITH FRENCH £7,000 p.a.

A fluent French speaker with a minimum of 5 years experience in a similar position. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day to day running of the office, including the preparation of correspondence, reports, and other documents.

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PA with French £7,000 p.a.

SOMETHING IN THE CITY c. £7,700

This well established property company near Mansion House seeks a Secretary for one of its offices. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day to day running of the office, including the preparation of correspondence, reports, and other documents.

A good telephone operator and a flexible and cheerful approach to work will be essential. This is an ideal situation for an experienced person looking for a challenging and varied role. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day to day running of the office, including the preparation of correspondence, reports, and other documents.

At least 5 years experience

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At least 5 years experience

Are you a five star Secretary/PA with administrative flair?

We are looking for go ahead, experienced secretaries for challenging and varied posts in our exclusive West End Hotel. Plenty of client contact with sales and PR opportunities.

GUEST SERVICES

To provide a first class secretarial and sales service for our exclusive international clientele. Must be willing to work flexible hours. Languages an advantage.

BANQUETING ADMINISTRATOR

To deal with clients bookings and arrangements for conferences, banquets etc. Must be organised with an eye for detail. Busy friendly office.

SALES AND MARKETING

Secretary/Administrator to introduce order in a hectic, stimulating environment working with our dynamic sales team and junior secretary.

ADVANCE RESERVATIONS

Client/Keyholder for bookings. Heaps of guest contact and responsibility for an income group scheme.

Excellent benefits and competitive rates offered. Located close to West End shops and Hyde Park.

Please apply in writing enclosing your career history to date to Antonia Miles, Grosvenor House, Park Lane, London W1. (01-499 6363)

SECRETARY TO DIRECTOR of Middle Eastern Investment Company

Location W2. must have excellent shorthand and typing and bilingual French/English, be flexible, able to work without supervision and have experience at Director level. The ideal candidate will probably be single, living in London and under 35. Salary is negotiable.

Please send full cv to Box No 0898 H The Times marked private and confidential.

LEADING FINANCIAL CONSULTANT

seeks

DIRECTOR OF MORTGAGE SERVICES

A senior lady is required to run the mortgage and underwriting of commercial and residential mortgages. In addition to normal mortgage work, she should be able to advise and negotiate with clients on a high standard with the ability to communicate at all levels in the position will include discussions with professional firms and visits to clients' offices. An income of around £10,000 per annum could be envisaged through salary plus profit share.

Please write with full CV to:

Mr J. R. Bates, Sherwood, Long View, Sanger, Richmond, Bucks.

Personnel Administrator

£7,500

Senior Secretary

£2,000

Senior Sec. 25-50, (100/80) for top level position. Highly confidential work.

Senior position in Personnel for Sec. 25-40, 90/50, with good telephone manner & literary personality.

TO £8,000

Audio typist (50 wpm).

All 3 positions in headquarters of prestigious int'l group of companies, W1.

TO £8,000

+ fringe benefits, Receptionist/Typist.

Location offices, W1.

133 Oxford St, W1.

Tel 437 8476 or 734 3768

(Free Comm.)

Miller/M'Nish

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If you are between 25-40 years of age, this is an excellent opportunity to work at one of the country's leading Health Farms.

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Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Davale

BBC 1

6.00 **Cee-fax**: News headlines, weather, sport and traffic details which can be received with any television set, with or without the Teletext facility.

6.30 **Breakfast Time**: Today's presenters are Nick Ross and Frank Bough. Includes news at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30; Regional news at 6.45, 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15; Sport at 6.42, 7.18 and 8.18; Today's papers at 7.32 and 8.32; Kasp fit, between 6.45 and 7.30; Tonight's TV (7.15-7.30); Your Stars (8.30-8.45); Elaine Page and Lewis Collins are the guests of the day **Clothes** at 9.00.

10.10 **For Schools, Colleges**: Science Workshop, 10.32 A Visitor from Outer Space; 11.05 **News** and **After**; 11.30 **Wales and the Americas**; **Patagonia**; 11.40 **Clothes**.

12.30 **News After Noon**, 12.57 **Financial Report**, and **News** headlines, sub-titled.

1.00 **Pebble Mill** at One: Includes an interview with Phil Everley, one half of the one-pop-one Everley Brothers. The interviewer is a fellow American, Perry Gombocini. 1.45 **Grass**, 1.50 **Step-Go**, 2.00 **You and Me**.

2.15 **For Schools, Colleges**: Music Time (the Evening Star) and, at 2.40 **Computer Club**.

3.00 **Four Score Years and Then ...** Life in a geriatric ward at a hospital in south-west London, where patients are allowed to choose their own life-style (r).

3.55 **Play School**: Nick Wilson's story which is My Room? (also on BBC 2 at 11.00 am); 4.20 **The Drak**: A cartoon; 4.40 **Heddi**: Episode 4; The blind grandmother (r); 5.05 **John Craven's Newsround**: 5.10 **Blue Peter**. We meet the new Blue Peter girl, and see Simon Groom flying jets in the lava of Mount Etna, Europe's highest mountain.

5.40 **News** with **Maria Stuart**, 6.00 **South East at Six**.

6.25 **National**: The Real Price of Fame. The pressures and tensions which students at London's elite City School have to cope with if they are eventually to end up in show business.

7.00 **Tomorrow's World**: science and technology magazine.

7.25 **Top of the Pops** with John Peel and David Jensen.

8.00 **Fame**: More happenings at the New York High School for the Performing Arts. Guest star Jimmy Connor plays a disco jockey competing with her for the role of lead singer in the school's festival of music and dance.

8.50 **Points of View**: Barry's letters get the viewers' treatment.

9.00 **News** with **Michael Buerk**.

9.25 **Jury**: Drama series which each week concentrates on a particular member of a jury hearing a rape case. Tonight, it is the turn of the oldest member of the jury (Philip Lloyd), an incurable optimist and romantic.

10.20 **Question Time**: Flanking Sir Robin Day at the Greenwood Theatre are Neil McIntosh, the Director of Shelter; Jim Mortimer, general secretary of the Labour Party; and Norman Tebbit, the Employment Secretary.

11.20 **Everyman**: Garabandal: After the Visions. Documentary about the impact of four Spanish girls' lives of the warnings they said they received from God, back in 1961 (r); 1.55 **Weather**.

12.30 **News** with **Michael Buerk**.

12.50 **Question Time**: Flanking Sir Robin Day at the Greenwood Theatre are Neil McIntosh, the Director of Shelter; Jim Mortimer, general secretary of the Labour Party; and Norman Tebbit, the Employment Secretary.

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7.00 **News** with **Michael Buerk**.

TV-am

6.00 **Daybreak**, with **Gavin Scott**. Followed by **Good Morning Britain**, at 6.30 (presenters: **Barry and Nick Owen**). Includes news at 6.00, 6.15, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30, 9.00 and 9.15; **Morning papers** at 6.30 and 8.30; **Teletext** at 7.50, guest celebrity at 8.20, **Consumer news** at 8.40, **Style by Jury**, at 8.50, and **Baby Talk** with **Alan Macdonald** and **Shelia Kitzinger** at 9.05. **Clothes** at 9.15.

ITV/LONDON

9.30 **For Schools**: Summer wildlife, 9.47 **Maths**, 10.04 **Science**, 10.21 **Social Education**, 10.38 **Search for Solutions**, 11.01 **Mountain Climbing**, 11.18 **Flashword**, 11.38 **Computers**.

12.00 **Garrison and Spinach**, with **Yvette Fielding**, 12.10 **and Go!** with **Beryl Reel**, 12.30 **The Sullivan's**: **Grenade in the Classroom**.

1.00 **News**, 1.20 **Thames area news**, 1.30 **Crown Court**: The verdict in the case of the army deserter (**Dominic Guard**) accused of wounding a young lad (r).

2.00 **A Plus**: Preparing for a marriage. With **comedian** **Marjorie Prosser**, 2.30 **Racing from Newmarket**: The big race is the 1,000 **Gulness Stakes** (at 3.15). The others are the 2.35 and the 3.45.

4.00 **Children's ITV**: **Garrison and Spinach**, 4.15 **Dangermouse**: episode 4 of **Four Heads are Better than Two**; 4.20 **First Post**: **Viewers' comments** about children's TV programmes; 4.30 **Report**: **Show Jumpers** (a cartoon); 4.40 **Home**: **Drama serial**, set in an Australian community welfare home.

5.15 **Emmerdale Farm**: the Yorkshire countryside serial.

5.45 **News**, 6.00 **Thames area news**, 6.35 **Thames Sports** with **Derek Thompson**. The outcome of yesterday's England v Hungary match.

7.00 **Knight Rider**: **Drama** about gun-turkeys. With **David Hasselhoff** in the title role.

8.00 **Michael Barrymore**: The comedian/singer/dancer/impressionist stars in his own show (five more to come). With **Jade**, the **Bunch of Five**, and **Nicholas Lindhurst**. Includes a comedy version of **Play School** and a sketch about two Mods. The dance routine is set to the music of the **Elvis Presley** hit **Don't Be Ever**.

8.30 **Midnight Looking for Mickey**. **Archer** (**John Cole**) thinks he has hit the jackpot, but a scoop of the decade when a prisoner (**John Lawlor**) escapes from jail seeking publicity for his attempt to get his sentence shortened. Co-starring **Diana Waterman** and **Diana Main** (r).

9.30 **TV Eye**: **Children of God**. An interview into the history of this group whose members are encouraged to prostitute themselves and take part in sexual activity with young children. The group has more than 500 members in Britain.

10.00 **News from ITN**. Followed by **Thames news headlines**.

10.30 **Studio**: Episode 6 of this serial set in a recording studio. **Art** (**Michael Fauds**) decides to record a live 'spectacular' in the studio.

11.30 **Lou Grant**: Newspaper drama. **Billie** (**Linda Kelsey**) is investigating a murder. The man accused of the crime pleads that he is innocent because he is convinced that the house where the killing took place is haunted. With **Edward Asner**.

12.05 **Carolee Leach-Hunt** reads from the works of **Richard Crashaw**.

12.30 **News** with **Michael Buerk**.

1.00 **Question Time**: Flanking Sir Robin Day at the Greenwood Theatre are Neil McIntosh, the Director of Shelter; Jim Mortimer, general secretary of the Labour Party; and Norman Tebbit, the Employment Secretary.

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BEC 2

6.05 **Open University**: **Maths**: functions; 6.30 **Conflict in the family**; 6.55 **Neuro-chemistry**; 7.20 **Occupations**; 7.45 **Immigration officers**; 8.10 **Play School**; see **BBC1**, 3.55 entry; 11.25 **Clothes**.

2.45 **World Snooker**: We see live action in two of the semi-finals of the Embassy World Professional Championship. From **The Crucible**, in **Sheffield**. Further coverage at 6.55, 9.00, 10.20 and 11.50 - all on **BBC2**.

5.10 **Who's Your Teacher, Mum?** How Tanzania teaches the question of education.

5.40 **Patel Young Garden**: **Children at Beechfield Primary School**, East Belfast, work on murals with the painter **Neil Shawcross** (r).

6.00 **Tucker's Luck**: **Tucker** (**Todd Carter**) cannot manage on what is a magazine for youngsters. Includes a spoof of the American drama series **Fame**. It is called **Fall**.

6.55 **World Snooker**: Back to **Sheffield**, and the Embassy semi-finals.

7.50 **Meryl Streep** at the **National Theatre**: **John** (**John**) interviews **comedian** **Meryl Streep** ("Sophie's Choice"). With clips from movies such as **Kramer**, **The Deerhunter** and **The French Lieutenant's Woman**.

8.30 **Food and Drink**: **Kelly Kelly** and **Susan Grossman** present the first of 10 programmes to suit all tastes. Tonight, assisted by drinks expert **John Goodwin**, they deal with **Australian wines**; not to confuse with the **tennis coach** who is having an affair with her daughter. **Danny** discovers who it is that he has to kill.

9.00 **World Snooker**: Highlights from today's semi-final action in the Embassy World Championship, in **Sheffield**. Further coverage at 10.20 and 11.50.

9.25 **Britain in the Thirties**: New eleven-part series which throws new light on the events of half a century ago. Tonight's film is about the 24-hour mutiny in September 1931 by men of Britain's Atlantic Fleet. The narration is by **Andrew Faulds** (see **Choice**).

9.55 **Nature Special**: **Adrian Rain**. Canadian film about how industry-polluted rain poisons the countryside. Introduced by **Tony Soper**.

10.20 **World Snooker**.

11.00 **World Snooker**.

12.15 **Open University**: **Measuring with light**; 12.40 **Other People's Children**. Ends at 1.10.

1.30 **World Snooker**.

2.00 **World Snooker**.

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1.30 **World Snooker**.

2.00 **World Snooker**.

CHANNEL 4

5.00 **Tennis**: **Count**: Under the hot sun in **Alcantara**, southern Spain, teaching professional **Adrian Stonebridge** continues showing eight tennis players of all levels of proficiency how to improve their game. Tonight: **carrot**, **step**, **play**. With helpful cartoons by "Scrubbles".

5.30 **Countdown**: Words and numbers game with **Richard Whiteley** and **Kenneth Williams**. Contestants pit their wits against each other in a knock-out competition.

6.00 **Anything We Can Do**: **DIY** series, with three actors (**John**, **Mike** and **John**) going through real-life situations. Tonight, they work on a car (the exhaust), painting and wallpapering, and the kitchen.

6.30 **Get Smart**: The robot that **Kace** assembles is a file-like that **Smart** (**Don Adams**) mistakes it for a fellow agent.

7.00 **Channel Four News**. It is followed, at 7.50, by **Comment**.

8.00 **The Optimist**: Continuing the adventures of **Nigel** (**Enn Reitel**) who tonight coaches a lady golfer and, in turn, becomes a writer, a lover and a car park attendant.

8.30 **After Image**: **Arts** magazine. Includes **A** **Travis** and **Wardrobe** of **Your Mind** (a guide to fashion from the 1980s to the present day). **Bruce Lacey** on a tour of one of the non-electric fairies he organizes; and French artist **George Rousseau** who paints and sculpts in derelict buildings.

9.00 **Soap**: More pages from the weird scrapbook of the **Tates** and **Campbells**. Tonight, **Jessica** (**Katherine Helmond**) and **John** (**John**) are not to confuse with the **tennis coach** who is having an affair with her daughter. **Danny** discovers who it is that he has to kill.

9.30 **File on Four**: **Angel** (1982) **Rapid** showing on television of the film which has already scored a success in cinemas in London, Dublin and elsewhere. The all-Irish cast is directed by **Stephen Rea**. Directed by **Neil Jordan** (see **Choice**).

11.10 **What the Papers Say**: With **Simon Hoggart** of **The Observer**.

11.25 **The Eagle, the Dragon, the Bear and the Kumpuchua**: A documentary about the nation (formerly **Caribbean**) caught in the centre of superpower politics. In the past decade, its people have known foreign invasion, civil strife, genocide and famine. Includes interviews with **Prince Norodom Sihanouk**, formerly the country's president, and with **Sir Robert Jackson**, the Deputy Secretary General of the United Nations. Ends at 12.20.

12.30 **World Snooker**.

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CHOICE

Tebbit hints at June election

By Barrie Clement
Labour Reporter

The strongest hint yet that the Government is aiming for a June election came yesterday from Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Employment, when he delivered what he described as a "scene setting" speech to the National Federation of Building Trades Employers.

Later he said: "I would much sooner be a Chancellor of the Exchequer coming into power than when the Government took over in 1979".

Unless the Conservatives fare badly in next month's local elections, his advice, as a special confidant of Mrs Margaret Thatcher, will be to go to the country in June.

Mr Tebbit's speech concentrated on the Government's long-term economic achievements, the evidence for the start of an economic recovery and the degree to which he thought trade unions were adjusting their policies to new labour relations legislation.

He said there were "some signs of an economy racing itself to resume normal and healthy growth". Consumer spending was running strongly, manufacturing output had been rising for four months in succession, car sales topped half a million in the three months to March and housebuilding was "sharply up".

Although those were only indicators, they were much firmer than they were in the "false dawn" at the beginning of last year.

He added that inflation was half the rate of a year ago, productivity had improved by 141 per cent over the last two years, government borrowing was among the lowest in the industrial world.

Mr Tebbit's philosophies did not go unchallenged by his hosts. Mr Brian Hill, chairman of Higgs and Hill and president of the building employers' national contractors' group, said the sector was heavily dependent on public sector spending.

"Only in the last few months have we seen the first signs of the Government realizing how dangerously low has been the nation's investment in the future."

Bitterness of the forgotten widows

By Michael Horsnell

The last time Ivy Cowan heard from her husband, Fusilier Edgar Cowan of the Royal Irish Fusiliers, was at 11am on Christmas Day, 1943, when an airmail letter dated November 22 arrived from Italy together with a number of Christmas cards and a buff envelope.

The letter spoke of fierce fighting on the Adriatic coast near Pescara but told her not to worry.

Mrs Cowan, then 36 and married for five years with a daughter, Jean, aged 2½, devoured the letter at the family home in Edmonton, north London. However her father, Henry Smithers, an invalided retired clerk, glanced anxiously at the buff envelope and insisted that she open it.

It contained a telegram from the War Office which regretted to announce that Fusilier Cowan, aged 31, a Scotsman living in London, had been killed in action on December 2. He had been shot through the left eye by German troops defending a farmhouse near the village of San Vito during the Eighth Army advance through Italy.

Mrs Cowan ran out of the house pursued by a neighbour as Jean screamed for her daddy. No one in the street enjoyed Christmas lunch.

There was a moment's hope as the family noticed that the War Office had got Edgar's service number wrong. But a telephone call to London confirmed merely a clerical error. The next month a family photograph which he had kept in his left breast pocket was returned blood-stained to his widow together with his watch and wedding ring.

"I felt as though the world had just crashed in around me," Mrs Cowan, now aged 76, said. "I have never got over it."

hilda Thornton was 20 years younger she would serve in the vanguard of the war widows' campaign for government assistance to enable those who kept the home fires burning visit their husbands' overseas graves. But Mrs Thornton, at 101 and reputedly the oldest widow in the country, is obliged to follow the campaign in newspapers and on television.

Colour Sergeant Philip Thornton, a veteran of the Boer War and the North-West Frontier of India, was killed on October 13, 1914, when the 1st Battalion of the Royal Warwickshire Regiment helped storm German defensive positions at the village of Meteren in northern France during the advance to Arras.

Thornton, aged 33, holder of seven medals including the Medaille Militaire and the DCM, is buried with 748 other servicemen at Meteren military cemetery near Baillieu.

Today Mrs Thornton, the oldest resident of the homely and attractive Coombs home for the elderly in Colford, Gloucestershire, is sufficiently stout of heart to attack this government and its predecessors Proudly bearing her husband's regimental cap badge inscribed "South Africa 1900-02" she said: "There was a War Office telegram to say he had been killed. But I knew anyway. It was at five o'clock in the morning and he died almost at once, calling to me and I heard him. We were boy and girl sweethearts together and he is still with me."

She added: "The widows of both world wars have been shabbily treated. Some had six children with nothing to live on and had to go scrubbing and washing when their husbands had died for their country. It was very tough. Fancy having to rely on your relations for assistance."

"Of course the war widows are right in asking for help to visit their husbands' graves. It's too late for me but a lot of them have nothing else left."

Baroness Jeger will ask the Government in the House of Lords today to reconsider its refusal to help war widows visit the overseas graves of their husbands. The Ministry of Defence says that the surviving 70,000



Fusilier Edgar Cowan (left) and Colour Sergeant Philip Thornton

confirmed merely a clerical error. The next month a family photograph which he had kept in his left breast pocket was returned blood-stained to his widow together with his watch and wedding ring.

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widows of the two world wars makes the task impossible large to undertake. But the widows claim that fewer than 10,000 would want to make a pilgrimage. The Times speaks to widows from both world wars



Fusilier Edgar Cowan (left) and Colour Sergeant Philip Thornton

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Hess son says father should see diaries

Continued from page 1

frail and living in seclusion in Bavaria, has long maintained that her husband's fight to Scotland in 1941 was undertaken with the knowledge of Hitler, and that Hess had kept silent of this to fulfil the promise he had made to Hitler before leaving Germany.

Meanwhile in London, Lord James Douglas-Hamilton, Conservative MP for Edinburgh West and son of the late Duke of Hamilton, who Rudolph Hess was seeking to contact on his 1941 peace mission, said yesterday that he did not believe the section of Hitler's diaries dealing with the episode was authentic, our foreign staff writes.

Lord James, author of *Motive to a Mission*, which describes the Hess affair, added: "I think there is absolutely no reason to believe this part of the document is genuine. I have many reasons for believing it is not."

He said reports of the diaries contents contained "absolutely nothing" to oblige him to alter his interpretation of the Hess mission. Hess, he explained, while imprisoned with Hitler in 1924, had taken down in dictation the passage of *Mein Kampf* in which Hitler had said Germany must never again fight a war on two fronts.

In May, 1941, Hess knew Hitler was planning to invade Russia. Hess was determined to conclude peace with Britain first. He also wished to restore his sagging influence with Hitler.

Hess had chosen the Duke of Hamilton as a contact because of a shared interest in aviation and because of his adviser, the Lord Albrecht Haushofer, had told him that the Duke was well connected in London with Churchill and King George VI.

Lord James released to *The Times* a previously unpublished letter of August, 1980, from Herr Wolf-Rüdiger Hess, in which Herr Hess confirmed his father had not met the Duke at a dinner attended by both men during the 1936 Olympic Games.

Moves to open all the British files dealing with the Hess affair are likely to fail. Some material is retained for 75 years under Section 5 (1) of the Public Records Act 1958. The reason can be gleaned from the published diary of the late Lord Cadogan, Permanent Secretary to the Foreign Office in 1941.

Letters, page 13

Frank Johnson in the Commons

Coming soon - licences to lose money

Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, yesterday made a statement to the House announcing the Government's policy on cable television.

In short, the Government was in favour of the system, upon Mr Roy Hattersley, the chief Opposition spokesman on home affairs, rose to give the Labour reaction.

"We on these benches regard cable television as potentially a great benefit to the nation as long as it is properly supervised and controlled."

The very words will strike boredom into the hearts of viewers throughout the country. It is to escape a television system that was "properly supervised and controlled" that they have been fleeing in their millions to the videos.

But for complex and tedious political reasons it is necessary for Mr Hattersley, whenever broadcasting is discussed in the House, to depict himself as a figure in comparison with whom the video looks like Billy Smart.

So Mr Hattersley doggedly strove to give the impression that he was in favour of cable television provided it was as much like Channel 4 as possible. One got the impression from him, and from later Labour backbench questioners of Mr Whitelaw, that ideally the Labour Party would like cable television to be so supervised and controlled as to exceed the feat of both Channel 4 and breakfast television and have no audience measurable to statistics at all.

Labour members were particularly worried about the idea that people might make a lot of money out of this new form of television. Understandably, this brought the Tory backbencher, Mr Jonathan Aitken, westward to his feet to utter a protest.

He is the man who, like some traveller in science fiction, peers out into the void, from his control panel behind the breakfast television screen, in the hope of making contact with intelligent beings who may be receiving his electronic messages.

"In view of the concern that has been expressed by Labour members about the profits to be made out of cable television," Mr Aitken smilingly inquired, "will the Home Secretary consider serious the view that these franchises, like some others, can think of may well turn out to be licences to lose money?"

Mr Aitken, speaking from the wealth of experience which he had derived from television, though not, alas, from the wealth of money.

He urged Mr Whitelaw to make sure that the finances of the cable operators were "solid and cautious indeed." Above all, he no doubt felt, there should be as many people as possible on cable television shows who resemble Mr. Ordinary, the man on whom Mr. Aitken is relying to retrieve his fortune.

The sight of Mr Aitken, a man who was in the process of losing a lot of money in television, temporarily raised morale on the Labour benches. But not for long. Days in the innermost beliefs of the Labour movement is the profound belief that everyone connected with television makes a fortune out of it, except Mr. Mr. Pigg, who does it for work's sake.

"If the number of additional television channels are left to the whims of market forces, it will only produce the lowest common denominator and more violence, materialism, and result in a further weakening of the social fabric," warned the Labour member for Bolsover, Mr. Dennis Skinner, revealing a new talent as an Arnoldian critic of mass culture. The Bolsover School of elitist social criticism turned out to be way above the Home Secretary's head.

On one matter all members were agreed. So-called adult channels have no place on the sort of cable systems which the Government wishes to see develop, said Mr Whitelaw, thus dealing a blow to Britain's pornography industry, threatened as it is by Scandinavian competition.

There were cries of "hear, hear," from MPs on both sides of the House, even though many of them were adults. "We very much welcome the Home Secretary's rejection of adult channels," said Mr Aitken virtuously.

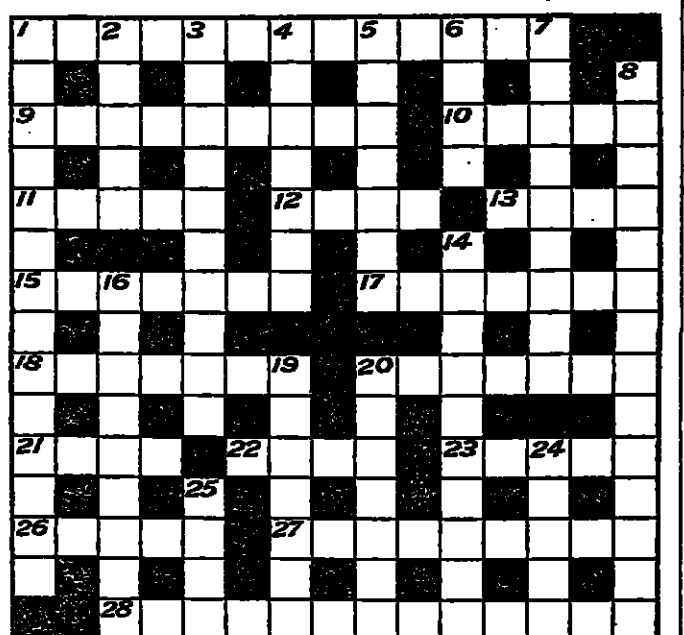
It was an impressive show of unity against the threat of adult channels, a threat which, in fact, never existed.

Today's events

Royal engagements
Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother lays a wreath on the grave of David Livingstone in Westminster Abbey, 11.30.
The Duke of Gloucester visits Robert Burns Cottage, Alloway Village, Scotland, 11.05; Ayr, 11.30.

Agricultural Show, Ayr Racecourse, 11.30.
The Duchess of Gloucester opens Dorset House School for the Blind, Sevenoaks, Kent, 2.30.
The Duke of Kent, as First Grand Principal of the Supreme Grand Chapter of England, attends the Royal Arch Investiture at Freemasons' Hall, 11.30.
Prince Michael of Kent at 11.30.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No. 16,115



- ACROSS**
- There was nothing in her closet but a modest gown (6, 7)
 - Fellow-resident I try to clean out at cards (9)
 - Musical hall - opening for dancing is firm (5)
 - Prime supporter of art (5)
 - Dan performed the French number (4)
 - Circus celebrity has sore back (4)
 - Man appears to be right with sale-room turnover (7)
 - Messenger sent for a newspaper (7)
 - Country mansion let by arrangement in Washington (7)
 - Northern Ireland group in charge of river line as adjusted (7)
 - Recognizes, say, the smell of tobacco for instance (4)
 - One in a race in Borrow's *Lavengro* (4)
 - James I offers Sydney a spot of leisure (5)
 - Italian city named in sea-trip (5)
 - Apparatus of Scotch manufacture destined to be abortive (9)
 - Beautifully got up like a dish at a Borgias feast (7, 2, 4)
- DOWN**
- Brother setting up the old firm in sharp practice (6, 8)
 - Reverse call (5)
 - Cher the XI, a real smasher (10)

- There's a gangster covering Jack's chimney (7)
 - Having the lordly manner of a Greek champion (7)
 - The lad died in any case (4)
 - Attachment warranted to shatter traditions, nothing less (9)
 - Explanation supported by a student of building (14)
 - Upstart in northern town over a fictitious bear (10)
 - Don't set out with a note of anchorage (9)
 - Joins forces in French sense of combat (7)
 - Churchman rose about five to six, worked with a shovel (7)
 - Bereaved widow looked wrongly on a motorway (5)
 - A mere reddish pigment (4)
- Solution of Puzzle No. 16,114**
- ACROSS
1. SPANISH
2. GREEK
3. SPANISH
4. SPANISH
5. SPANISH
6. SPANISH
7. SPANISH
8. SPANISH
9. SPANISH
10. SPANISH
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25. SPANISH
26. SPANISH
27. SPANISH
28. SPANISH
- DOWN
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2. SPANISH
3. SPANISH
4. SPANISH
5. SPANISH
6. SPANISH
7. SPANISH
8. SPANISH
9. SPANISH
10. SPANISH
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27. SPANISH
28. SPANISH

President of the Institute of Motor Industry, visits Lotus Cars at Norwich, 11.
Princess Alexandra attends the tenth annual luncheon of the Appeals Committee, Women's National Cancer Control Campaign, at Grosvenor House Hotel, London, 12.10.

New exhibitions
Dimensions in watercolour, landscape, figure and flower drawings by Peter Upton, The Looking Glass Gallery of Modern Arts, 33 Halford Road, Tottenham: Tues to Sat, 10 to 5.30 (until May 28).

Exhibitions in progress
Inner Worlds: Symbolic works selected by Paul Overy, Gardner Centre Gallery, Sussex University, Brighton: Mon to Sat 10 to 6 (until May 11).

Last chance to see
A Brush With Nature: Cecil Higgins Art Gallery, Castle Close, Bedford, 12.30 to 5 (ends today).

Recent works by Neil Dallas Brown, Collins Gallery, Strathclyde University, 23 Richmond Street, Glasgow, 10 to 5 (ends today).

Talks, lectures
Being an illustrator, by Quentin Blake, author and illustrator of children's books, Charendon Press Centre, Walton Street, Oxford, 8.

Music
Concert by the Bournemouth Sinfonietta, King's School, Ottery St Mary, 7.30.

Concert by BBC Northern Symphony Orchestra, Great Hall, Lancaster University, 7.30.

Recital by Leonard Friedman (violin) and Allan Schiller (piano), Bonar Hall, Dundee, 7.30.

Concert, by Chillingham String Quartet, Malvern Concert Club, Festival Theatre, Malvern, 7.45.

Recital by Nigel Kennedy (violin) and English Sinfonietta, Worcester Priory, 7.30.

Mozart and Schubert concert, Northern Sinfonia of England, St Cuthbert's, Carlisle, 7.30.

Concert by City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, Worcester Cathedral, 7.30.

Concert by Mladi Ensemble, Mere Parish Church, Wiltshire, 7.30.

Concert by Ulster Orchestra, with Heather Harper (soprano), The Diamond, New University of Ulster, Coleraine, 8.

Concert by BBC Welsh Symphony Orchestra, St David's Hall, Cardiff, 7.30.

Concert by Herson Ensemble, University Hall, Bath, 7.30.

Winterness, Schubert, by Peter Alford (baritone) and Kenneth Mobbs (1928 Viennese fortepiano), Wills Memorial Building, Bristol University, 7.30.

Recent books - fiction
The Literary Editor's selection of interesting novels published this month:
Flying to Nowhere, by John Fowles (Salamander, £4.50).
Fools of Fortune, by William Trevor (The Bodley Head, £2.50).
In Search of Love and Beauty, by Ruth Praver Jhabvala (John Murray, £8.50).
Listeners, by Sally Emerson (Michael Joseph, £7.50).
The Philosopher's Pupil, by Michael Ondaatje (Faber, £8.95).
Minotaur, by Benjamin Tanzi (Enigma Books, £7.95).
Not by Bread Alone, by Naomi Mitchison (Marion Boyars, £7.95).
The Philosopher's Pupil, by Michael Ondaatje (Faber, £8.95).
The Private Life of Oscar Wilde, by Peter Ackroyd (Hamish Hamilton, £7.95).

Anniversaries
Births: Edward IV (reigned 1461-70, 71-83), Rouen, 1442; James Monroe, fifth president of the United States, Westoverland county, Virginia, 1758; Francis Hodgkins, painter, Dunedin, New Zealand, 1869; Sir Charles Bell, anatomist, died at North Hall, Worcester, 1842; Marilyn on the Bounty, 1789.

French dock strike
The Union representing French port personnel has called a four-hour national strike tomorrow after a breakdown in wage talks with port authorities (Renter reports). The strike will affect France's 32 largest ports and will be followed by about 15 similar stoppages over the next two weeks.

Parliament today
Commons (2.30): Finance Bill, committee, third day.
Lords (3): Housing and Building Control Bill, committee, second day.

The pound
Bank Buys Bank Sells
Australia \$ 1.88 1.79
Austria Sch 28.35 26.85
Belgium Fr 79.25 75.25
Canada \$ 1.98 1.90
Denmark Kr 14.22 13.50
Finland Mk 6.90 6.40
France Fr 11.95 11.35
Germany DM 3.98 3.78
Greece Dr 136.00 127.00
Hongkong \$ 11.10 10.52
Ireland Ir 1.27 1.20
Italy Lit 2355.00 2245.00
Japan Yen 399.00 370.00
Netherlands Gld 4.48 4.25
Norway Kr 11.62 11.02
Portugal Esc 178.00 152.00
South Africa Rd 2.03 1.89
Spain Ptas 166.00 160.00
Sweden Kr 12.22 11.60
Switzerland Fr 3.35 3.17
USA \$ 1.62 1.56
Yugoslavia Dar 126.00 119.00

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied by Barclays Bank International Ltd. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

Lighting-up time
London 8.40 pm to 8.18 pm
Bristol 8.47 pm to 8.17 pm
Cardiff 8.52 pm to 8.12 pm
Edinburgh 8.57 pm to 8.12 pm
Glasgow 8.57 pm to 8.12 pm
Liverpool 8.57 pm to 8.12 pm
Manchester 8.57 pm to 8.12 pm
Newcastle 8.57 pm to 8.12 pm
Nottingham 8.57 pm to 8.12 pm
Preston 8.57 pm to 8.12 pm
Sheffield 8.57 pm to 8.12 pm
Southampton 8.57 pm to 8.12 pm
Tottenham 8.57 pm to 8.12 pm
Wolverhampton 8.57 pm to 8.12 pm
Wrexham 8.57 pm to 8.12 pm

The papers
The Washington Post said yesterday that there was a hope that Hitler's diary would be found and authenticated, not because he stood to be "rehabilitated" but to "decide, reduce, unmask and finally literally destroy this monster man by catching him out at being no more than a base, gross, greedy little man - as distinct from the huge historical force he appeared to be."

Information supplied by the A.A.
Roadworks: south of Guildford at Compton, M11: One lane only northbound between junctions 6 and 7 (Banford). M2: Lanes closed each way between junctions 2 (Chertsey) and 4 (Chambersley).
West: M45: Lanes closed both ways between junctions 23 and 24 near Bridgewater in addition to existing roadworks in Somerset. A 4th: Temporary signals two miles east of Llandovery. A55: Roadworks at Conwy Bridge.
Midlands and East Angles: A10: Temporary signals at Southborough between Dowham Market and Ely. A64: Lane closures both ways on Telford bypass, diversion at junction 5. A425: Roadworks south of Wellesbourne from Loxley Turn to Redhill.
North: M62: Lane closures both ways between junctions 22 (Bradford, Halifax) and 26 (Ripponden). A19: Northbound carriageway closed from Low Hills Bridge to Jackson Mill, slip road closures and diversions. A75: Roadworks at Hampton Heath, north-east of Malpas.
Scotland: A75: Great Western Road, Glasgow, closed eastbound for sewer repairs. A75: One lane only, temporary signals 24hr a day, at Threave Bridge west of Castle Douglas, Kirkcubright. M8: Eastbound lanes at junction from Provost Road closed 9.30am to 4pm, diversion signed.
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Nottingham 8.5